Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XVIII, Issue No. 302 | TUESDAY OCTOBER 28, 2008 | www.saipantribune.com | 50¢

Visit us online @ www.saipantribune.com

7 DAYS TO GO BEFORE ELECTION DAY

OPINION METER

This week's poll:
Do you plan to take your children trick-or-treating on Halloween night?

Let your voice be heard!
Go to
www.saipantribune.com
to cast your vote.

28 DAYS without a government budget for FY 2009

INSIDE

Endorsement
Alaska's largest newspaper has endorsed Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama.

NATION...Page 15

Safety First
Ghosts and goblins aren't the only scary things you and your children should be wary of on Halloween night.

LIFE & STYLE...Page 19

Six vying for Miss Marianas Universe title. **PAGE 2**
'Learn how to do business with federal govt' **PAGE 5**

Funding source for Fitial suit a litigation secret, says Baka

By AGNES E. DONATO
agnes_donato@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Fitial administration still refuses to disclose how it is funding its lawsuit against the U.S. government over the new immigration law.

Acting Attorney General Gregory Baka, in response to a lawmaker's Open Government Act request addressed to Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, said Friday that government transparency law does not

See FUNDING on Page 4

The OGA requires that all 'public records' shall be available for inspection. It does not require the government to create records or 'explain' anything.

—Acting Attorney General Gregory Baka

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

A hotel guest goes down a staircase at the Palms Resort Saipan. The local hotel association reports a slight jump in hotel occupancy last month.

Hotel occupancy up in September

Major hotels in the CNMI saw a slight jump in occupancy in September, based on a statement issued yesterday by the Hotel Association of Northern Marianas Islands.

The 14 hotels in the associated reported an average of 55.14 percent occupancy for last month, besting the 49.20 percent posted in September 2007. Room rates also rose slightly from $85.35 last year to $89.22 in September 2008.

See story on Page 3

Flowers mark the burial site of Staff Sgt. Julian Manglona at the CNMI's Veteran's Cemetery in Marpi. Manglona passed away earlier this month while training in Fort Hood, Texas.

KRISTI EATON

Manglona remembered, honored by community

By KRISTI EATON
Kristi_eaton@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

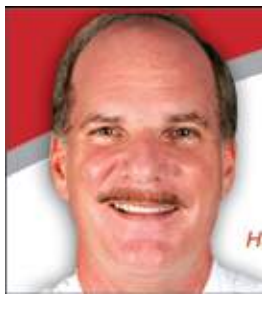
Mount Carmel Church was full of mourners yesterday as Staff Sgt. Julian Manglona was remembered.

Manglona passed away earlier this month in Fort Hood, Texas, after collapsing during a 6-mile training run. He was 39.

RELATED NEWS
- A fateful day in Fort Hood. **PAGE 8**

During yesterday's ceremony, Gov. Benigno Fitial delivered remarks, expressing his gratitude for Manglona's service and his condolences for his death. Washington Representative Pete A. Tenorio presented Manglona's family with

See MANGLONA on Page 4



"Check out these great prices!"
See inside ad.
Saipan - Guam Office:
888-8888
www.iconnectsaipan.com
iCONNECT
Pushing Saipan Forward

Local

Six vying for Miss Marianas Universe title

KRISTI EATON

Miss Marianas Universe contestants are, from left to right, Alexandra Silva, Sorene Maratita, Winona Camacho, Bobby Jean Taisacan and Leovita Cabrera. A winner will be crowned Nov. 29 at Palms Resort Saipan.

By KRISTI EATON
kristi_eaton@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Six young women are hoping to earn a shot at becoming the next Miss Marianas Universe.

Leovita Cabrera, 18; Winona Camacho, 17; Charmaine Hofschneider, 18; Sorene Maratita, 18; Alexandra Silva, 18, all from Saipan; and Bobby Jean Taisacan, 18, from Rota, will compete Nov. 29 at the Palms Resort Saipan for the title.

They will be competing in five categories: national costume, swimsuit, evening gown, on stage question-and-answer and personal interview.

Maratita said she is participating in the pageant to become a role model.

"I'm in it for the experience to become a better person," she said.

The girls said they have become friends as they prepare for the big event.

"We knew of each other, but this certainly brought us all together," Silva said, adding that the girls are planning to visit Managaha Island together.

The winner will compete in the 2009 Miss Universe and Miss International pageants.

Laila Boyer, president of Stellar Marianas, which organizes the pageant, said this year's Miss Marianas would be active in local community events. She said she hopes Miss Marianas can come back from the international pageants with a title, in order to "give the CNMI positive exposure."

The competition, which will have a Rock 'N Roll theme this year, is an opportunity for the girls to excel at their personal best, Boyer said.

"I've seen them transform from shy girls to confident women," she said.

Girls ages 17-25 can take part in the pageant. Pageant organizers opened up the competition to 17 year olds this year in hopes of attracting more participants, she said. The girls must turn 18 before May 2009.

The pageant's major sponsors are Triple J Motors, Northwest Airlines, Marianas Visitors Authority, Younis Art Studio, Shell Marianas, Ponds, Dove & Suave, Pena House Boutique, Iridescent Boutique, DFS Galleria, PTI, Sporticca, Gold's Gym, Genoveva's Hair Power, Palms Resort Saipan, Island Florals & Gifts, Aquarius Beach Towers, Power 99 FM and the Rock.

USSP Bar
SPOOKY FRIDAY BUDDY NIGHT
Come In w/ Your GUY or GHOUL Friends
& Get FIRST DRINK @ 50% Off (Bud Family Beers)
Starts: 7pm to Closing
Friday, October 31, 2008
Wear Halloween Costume & Win Cool Bud Gears

Man in plot to steal lighting units from AMP gets 4-month sentence

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The federal court yesterday slapped a four-month prison term on a man who was involved in a conspiracy to steal portions of metal lighting units at the American Memorial Park.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Alex R. Munson sentenced James Ochcha to a total of four months in prison for conspiracy to sell government property and destruction of veterans' memorials.

Munson ordered the 52-year-old Ochcha to pay jointly with co-defendants Dominic Chipwelong and Masaioshy Daikichi Sallem restitution in the amount of $35,490.

The judge directed the defendant to pay the restitution to the court's clerk, with the amount to be disbursed to the federal National Parks Service, which manages the American Memorial Park.

Following the completion of his prison term, Ochcha shall be placed on three years of supervised release.

The judge said the defendant, a Chuukese, shall then be delivered to an authorized immigration official for deportation from the CNMI.

Munson also required the defendant to complete 100 hours of community service and to pay a $200 special assessment fee.

He remanded Ochcha to the custody of the U.S. Marshal.

Ochcha, Chipwelong, and Sallem, all Chuukese, were indicted with conspiracy to sell government property and theft of government property.

In addition, Ochcha was charged with destruction of veterans' memorials.

Chipwelong and Ochcha entered a guilty plea. Chipwelong was sentenced to 10 months in prison.

Last Thursday a federal jury convicted Sallem. His sentencing was set for Jan. 22, 2009.

According to the indictment, on Nov. 1, 2007, Chipwelong and Ochcha sold a portion of metal lighting units stolen from the American Memorial Park to employees of the Huang Zheng Recycling Center.

That same day, Chipwelong and Ochcha returned to the same recycling center and sold another portion of the metal lighting units stolen from the park.

On Nov. 4, 2007, Sallem sold a portion of the metal lighting units to the recycling center. The following day, Chipwelong did the same thing.

Between Nov. 1 to 7, 2007, Ochcha destroyed metal lighting units, structures, and monuments at the Court of Honor located on the park's property near the Beach Road entrance.

Security agency sues defunct Jin Apparel

A security agency has sued the defunct garment manufacturer Jin Apparel Inc. for allegedly refusing to pay over $14,000 for security services.

Sapphire Enterprises Inc., owner of Sapphire Security Agency, asked the Superior Court to order Jin Apparel to pay the principal amount plus accrued interest, court costs, and attorney's fees.

Michael White, lawyer for Sapphire Enterprises, said that Jin Apparel is indebted to plaintiff for security services provided to the factory.

"Notwithstanding demand, defendant has failed, refused and neglected, and still fails, refuses and neglects to pay the said amount or any part thereof to plaintiff," White said.

In October 2007, Jin Apparel filed a notice to the Department of Labor about its plan to suspend business operations from Dec. 31, 2007 until March 31, 2008. ***(Ferdie dela Torre)***

DYS employees learn skills to better serve children, families

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Twenty-two employees of the Division of Youth Services pose after completing an eight-hour training on the Fundamentals of Communication.

Twenty-two employees of the Division of Youth Services, including those on Rota and Tinian, recently completed an eight-hour training on the Fundamentals of Communication.

Dr. Peter Eche, a training consultant from the Office of Personnel Management conducted the training held on Oct. 21 and 22.

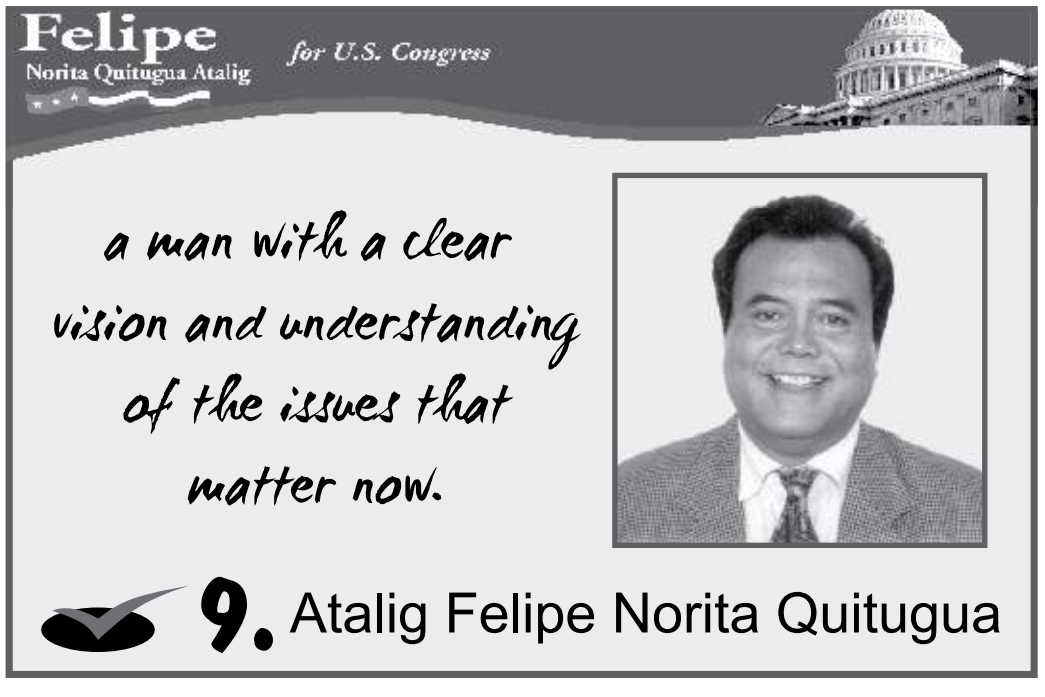
On Oct. 23 and 24, the staff further completed 14 hours of casework and case management trainings.

Trainers/presentors included DYS staff Laura T. Ogumoro, Julian R. Camacho, and Bill Limes, Department of Public Safety officers Andrea Ozawa and George David, and the DYS legal counsel, assistant attorney general Tom Schweiger.

These trainings were designed to help increase caseworker knowledge and skills in the areas of child abuse and neglect, standard operating procedures, domestic violence, and human trafficking.

DYS said it continues to prioritize trainings to help develop employee skills and expertise to better serve children, youth, and families in the CNMI.

DYS, under the auspices of the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, currently has 62 employees and is headed by newly appointed director, Calvani P. DLGuerrero. ***(DCCA/DYS)***


Felipe
Norita Quitugua Atalig
for U.S. Congress
a man with a clear vision and understanding of the issues that matter now.
9. Atalig Felipe Norita Quitugua

HANMI: Hotel occupancy up slightly in September

By STEFAN SEBASTIAN
stefan_sebastian@saipantribune.com
BUSINESS EDITOR

Major hotels in the CNMI are seeing a slight jump in occupancy at a time when many are struggling due to the rising cost of doing business on the islands, the Hotel Association of Northern Marianas Islands reported in statistics released Monday.

In September, the 14 member hotels in the association saw an average rate of more than 55.14 percent occupancy, roughly 6 points higher than the same month last year, which had one of the lowest occupancy rates on record at an average of just over 49 percent.

Association chairwoman Lynn Knight said that in spite of the increased occupancy, hotels in the CNMI are still facing a host of serious challenges linked to the economic downturn here, on the American mainland and abroad. Rising operational costs, she added, have only made the circumstances more difficult.

"While the Association welcomed the slight increase in occupancy, we are closely watching the changing American and world economies and how the cooling may affect local tourism," said Knight. "Other rising costs of doing business, including increases in utilities, fuel, labor, shipping, food and other commodities are putting continued pressure on the industry."

Responding to tough economic times, hotel room rates have also risen in the last year from $85.35 on average per night to $89.22, HANMI said in a statement.

The Association noted that costs in the CNMI are quite a bit higher than Guam, yet the hotels need to maintain similar pricing in order to compete effectively. Additionally, the effects of a weaker won are affecting the Korean tourism market, one of the fastest-growing markets for the CNMI due to the commitment of Asiana Airlines to increasing flight schedules and marketing.

This year to date, it added, HANMI member hotels have paid over $2.4 million in gross receipts tax and $4.8 million in hotel occupancy tax to the government.

The increase in occupancy comes after the Marianas Visitors Authority earlier this month released statistics showing a modest 5 percent increase in visitor arrivals to the CNMI for September linked to the expansion of airline service to Saipan from Japan. Despite this jump, tourist visits to the CNMI appears on a plateau. Only 474 more travelers came to Saipan in fiscal year 2008, which ended in September, than in the previous year.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

A hotel guest swims at the pool of the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan. According to HANMI, hotel occupancy jumped by about 6 percentage points in September, compared to the same month last year.

'Report damaged appliances caused by frequent outages'

By AGNES E. DONATO
agnes_donato@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A lawmaker yesterday repeated his call for utility customers to report any damage caused by frequent power outages to their household appliances.

Rep. Joseph Reyes is collecting the information in a bid to get the customers compensated for the damages. He began the effort two months ago, but the response has been "pretty slow," he said.

"I know there are a lot of people out there who have experienced damage to one or more of their household appliances. I have talked to many of them. I need them to provide me with the data so I can see what can be done. Somebody has to be responsible for those damage," said Reyes.

For many months before Aggreko's rental generators went online, Saipan residents suffered daily power outages lasting at least two hours. Many customers of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. have complained that the power outages and fluctuations caused their appliances to malfunction, if not completely break down.

In a public notice, Reyes urged those customers to notify his office before Nov. 15 of the date and time the damage occurred, the type of appliances damaged, and the estimate dollar value of the loss.

"It's bad enough that we're paying so much for power. Now they're going to ruin our appliances too? We will not be punished any further," he said in an interview yesterday.

He said affected customers should get tax credits or some other form of compensation for the broken appliances. But he added that this proposal would not be worth pursuing if people didn't provide the data.

LB chief tightens system on applications for leave

Legislative Bureau director Glenna SP Reyes has called on the agency's employees to comply with policy for submitting leave.

In a recent memorandum, Reyes slammed the employees' practice of submitting leave after they return from absence or at the end of every pay period. She said it violates the LB's personnel policy and employment contract terms, and adversely affects timekeeping procedures.

"Effective immediately, prior to taking leave of absence, all employees are required to submit an application for leave to their respective immediate supervisor for preliminary review and consideration," she said.

She added that the supervisor must submit a report on how the leave of absence will impact the workload of the relieving employee and a recommendation to the director for final decision. Employees who violate the policy will have their leave request disapproved and will not be paid for the duration of the leave, she said.

Reyes, who has served as LB deputy director since February 2006, was officially appointed to the position of director on Tuesday, Oct. 21. ***(Agnes E. Donato)***

Alien worker, 66, appeals to Labor for help

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A 66-year-old alien worker has appealed to Labor Department Secretary Gil M. San Nicolas to look into his complaint against the defunct garment manufacturer United International Corp.

Yuehan Liu, a Chinese, told *Saipan Tribune* that he filed a complaint against UIC for serious violation of both federal and local labor, immigration, and tax laws, but a Labor investigator ignored his allegations.

Liu, through an interpreter, said he wants UIC to accurately report to the government his tax payments during his 10-year employment with the factory.

The complainant, who is currently jobless, said he is asking for answers to his claims so he could retire back in his country.

Liu

Saipan Tribune tried to contact UIC for comment yesterday, but no one was available. Some former UIC workers interviewed earlier by *Saipan Tribune* stated that they did not encounter any problem with the management after more than 10 years of working at UIC.

Liu said the U.S. Social Security Administration in a letter dated Aug. 23, 2008, informed him that he is entitled to $266 monthly benefits beginning August 2008.

"If UIC reported my actual tax I am supposed to get a lot more retirement benefits," Liu said.

In his appeal sent to San Nicolas last week, Liu said that in the tax reports and employment contract, UIC stated that his salary is $3.05 an hour. But Liu said his actual monthly income is $1,500 cash for the past 10 years.

He said UIC didn't report the tax indicating his $1,500 monthly salary.

Liu said he also raised concern that a UIC employee forged his signature on his first year (1997) employment contact.

After that, he said, UIC never provided him a copy of his yearly employment contract.

He also alleged that UIC forged his signature in the contract.

Liu said UIC hired him as a pattern grader cutter, but his actual duties were art, advertising, photography and performance stage designs.

With respect to time cards, the worker said that, he never punched or signed a timecard in his 10 years at UIC.

He said a Labor investigator would not allow him during a hearing to talk about UIC's other violations such as 10 Taiwanese and 20-some mainland Chinese in the factory's management staff who have a similar salary situation as him.

The Taiwanese entry permit job categories were sewers, but their actual job duties were management and administrative work.

"Their salaries were $2,000 to $3,000 monthly, not $3.05 an hour as indicated in the contracts," he said.

He said the investigator also did not allow him to speak out that UIC forged his recent CNMI tax refund checks and illegally took away his past 10 years' CNMI tax refund money.

Liu said the investigator forced him to surrender his original entry permit and that if he doesn't do so, an immigration officer would be called to arrest him.

Labor records show that the labor investigator's determination issued on Oct. 8, 2008, and approved by Labor Director Barry Hirshbein recommended the dismissal of Liu's complaint based on unfounded merits.

The investigator recommended that Liu's other claims should be addressed in a different venue with the proper agency.

The investigator determined that Liu and UIC filed their initial one-year nonresident worker's contract on Dec. 3, 1997, and continuously renewed such contract up until Oct. 31, 2007. The last contract's expiration date was Nov. 24, 2008.

Liu was employed as pattern grader cutter. He has worked for UIC for almost 10 years and that his last day of work was Sept. 21, 2008, due to announced closure of UIC's operations.

The investigator said that, on July 23, 2008, Liu received notice from UIC regarding the intent to shut down garment operations on Sept. 21, 2008, due to economic reasons.

Payroll records showed that Liu was paid his wages in full for all hours worked during his tenure with UIC ending up until Sept. 21, 2008.

The investigator said he finds nothing to substantiate Liu's claim that he was owed two months wages on a six-month payroll record provided.

Bio-fuel firm proposes $98K Fiji plantation

Pongamia tree produces oily pod

SUVA, Fiji (Fijilive/PIR)—A $98,000 biodiesel initiative is being proposed for Fiji in the first three years of its inception.

Still in the planning stage, the proposed project is part of attempts to reduce the country's reliance on imported diesel through the use of pongamia oil.

And this FJ$174 million proposal by Bio-Fuels International has the support of the Department of Energy that says this project, when implemented, will enable Fiji to stand alone in the region in confronting the issue of increasing fuel costs.

This will be the fourth project eyed to be established in Fiji to generate its own fuel—two ethanol (cassava and sugarcane), two bio-diesel (coconut oil and pongamia oil).

A brief prepared by Bio-Fuels International stated Fiji would be one of the major contenders among proposed sites in the South Pacific for Bio-fuel International's 'Renewable Energy Transformation Initiative'.

The brief stated that phase 1 of the development would see a cash infusion of more than $174 million to plant an estimated 100,000 hectares of pongamia in the first three years alone.

Pongamia is a deciduous tree that grows to about 15-25 meters in height with a large canopy that spreads equally wide.

Oil from pongamia seeds have been found to be useful in diesel generators and are being explored in hundreds of projects throughout India and the third world as feedstock for biodiesel.

According to the brief, "the overall project is anticipated to tip the scales at $870 million over the next 12 years and cover a total plantation span of more than 500,000 hectares".

Agricultural development specialist Frank Eggleton said the investors, from Australia and US were working on the basis that they did not want to own leases or have any control over the farmer's land.

He said they wanted the farmer to farm his own land.

"One of the reasons in Fiji farmers haven't been faming on their land is they haven't got the money to develop it, or they haven't got the expertise to develop it, or they haven't got the market or they haven't got the drive to develop it.

"So what we did was we found the market, we found the product, we supplied the import, we supplied the expertise or the training, and the farmer went ahead.

"In the pongamia situation, the farmers will have an extra advantage in that the company will be supplying the imports, they won't have to borrow any money therefore they won't have to pay it back.

"That's the prime principle, the farmer farming his own land with his own experience so that he takes ownership of it and then he produces the product and he's got the market for it. It's not rocket science but it's very difficult to implement.

"I've had 40 years in agriculture development and I know that this is nearly the only successful case worldwide where we have managed to implement it, and it has taken very intense management."

Department of Energy's Bio-fuel Engineer, Filimoni Vosarogo said that with a cash injection of $174,000,000, the project would put Fiji on the big bio-diesel market.

Naitaisiri Provincial Council chairman Ratu Ilaitia Tuisese said there was land available in Naitasiri to accommodate this project.

However, he said proper consultations and meetings would need to be carried out with landowners for a clear understanding of the benefits of the project.

MANGLONA

From Page 1

a letter stating his condolences, while Department of Public Safety Commissioner Sandy Tudela commended Manglona's 17 years on the force.

Brig. Gen. Alexander I. Kozlov, Commanding General of the 9th Mission Support Command in Hawaii, gave Manglona's wife and family an Army Accommodation medal.

After the service, mourners headed to the Veteran's Cemetery in Marpi, where Manglona received a full military service with honors rendered.

"The services overall, from beginning to end, were very honorable and respectful," said Ruth Coleman, Office of Veteran's Affairs. "Something the family will have a lasting memory of. It's something we always give to fallen soldiers. It's very dignified."

She said the family was pleased with the honors bestowed upon their husband, son and brother, but would have Manglona back in a heartbeat, if possible.

Relatives from Washington, Oregon, Rota and Tinian traveled to attend the day's events.

Manglona was an army reserve soldier from the 100th Battalion, assigned to the 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team. He was preparing for his second tour of duty. He left behind his wife, Brenda, and eight children.

FUNDING

From Page 1

cover the requested records and information concerning the funding sources for the lawsuit.

According to Baka, information about the terms under which the CNMI government has hired the U.S.-based law firm Jenner & Block for the lawsuit, the amounts of money paid to date, and the source of funding are not subject to the Open Government Act because they are "litigation related."

"[D]ocumentation identifying funding sources and contracts between the CNMI and outside litigation counsel, relevant to the [Covenant] Section 903 controversy, are exempt from disclosure under the OGA because they are discoverable by the United States either under the attorney-client privilege…, or absent 'substantial need of the materials' presenting 'undue hardship' in obtaining otherwise," Baka told Rep. Tina Sablan. "Absent these provisions, agents of the United States could use the OGA as a subterfuge to obtain records unavailable through discovery."

Baka said that, other than the OGA-exempt documents, there are no public records identifying any public or private source of funding for the lawsuit.

Further, he said, no public funds were reprogrammed to finance the lawsuit, as "the sole public source of funding was from the governor's operating account."

'Misled'

Sablan accused the administration yesterday of misleading the public into believing that no public funds have been used so far on the lawsuit. "The governor has thus far been rather coy and evasive about the source of funding for the lawsuit," she said in an interview.

"Now we see from [Baka's] letter that funds have indeed been spent from the governor's operational account. These funds are not the governor's personal funds. They are still taxpayer funds. Citizens and taxpayers of the CNMI should have every right to know how their tax dollars are being spent," she noted in a letter to legislative leaders.

Sablan's letter also urged lawmakers, particularly the leadership, to subpoena information about the lawsuit which, she noted, "has been rejected by the Legislature and that has also been roundly criticized for undermining our ability to negotiate with the federal government on behalf of the Commonwealth's best interests as we make the transition toward federalized immigration."

In an interview, Sablan pointed out that her Open Government Act request was submitted to Fitial, and not Baka. "As far as I am concerned, the buck still stops with the governor, and he has thus far refused to disclose the information requested. I suppose I give Mr. Baka credit for weighing in, but the request was not directed to him," she said.

Outside counsel

Baka, in his letter to Sablan, addressed her request for an explanation on the constitutionality of the CNMI government being represented by an outside counsel, instead of the CNMI Attorney General, in the federalization lawsuit.

The acting AG began by attacking Sablan's use of the Open Government Act for the request. "The OGA requires that all 'public records' shall be available for inspection," he said. "It does not require the government to create records or 'explain' anything."

Yet Baka maintained that it is common practice for the AG's office to refer cases to private law firms for reasons such as conflicts, lack of specialized experience, or resource constraints. He added that this delegation is in full compliance with the Constitution and is not legally required to be in writing.

"Hundreds of pleadings are filed annually by the OAG without the AG's personal review or signature. Yet as the deputy attorney general…I did personally review and comment upon various drafts of the complaint in our Section 903 litigation," Baka said.

Section 903 of the U.S.-CNMI Covenant allows either party to bring to court any dispute arising under the Covenant.

'Tactical secrets'

Press secretary Charles P. Reyes Jr. said Baka's letter is "appropriate" and reflects the governor's position.

He echoed Baka's justification for not disclosing the requested information, saying the Open Government Act does protect the CNMI's interests in court by barring the release of information that government's litigation opponents could not get. Without this restriction, he said, "we could never protect our tactical litigation secrets."

"This is not a policy decision by the administration," he said, "We are simply following the dictates of the law, which prohibit us from releasing such material. Once the lawsuit is completed, we are no longer a 'party,' and the information exempt on that basis would have to be disclosed, just as now, we are prohibited from releasing it."

He added, "Until then, we must follow the wisdom of the drafters of the Open Government Act in exempting litigation matters from disclosure. We should respect the wisdom of our Legislature over the years, and not try to ignore the law when it suits particular partisan purposes or the litigation objectives of our adversaries."

'Learn how to do business with federal govt'

By AGNES E. DONAT
agnes_donato@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The U.S. Department of Defense's lead official for the Guam military buildup has urged the CNMI government to link up with the University of Guam on a training program for doing business with the federal government.

David Bice, director of the Joint Guam Program Office, told local lawmakers on Friday that there are many ways the local private sector can take part in multibillion-dollar military realignment on Guam and the rest of the Marianas.

He said the government could help prepare local businesses by working with UOG on having the Procurement Technical Assistance Center provide extension services on Saipan.

Last month, the Department of Defense awarded a grant to UOG to establish the training center. The purpose of the PTAC is to guide local businesses in obtaining federal, state, and local government contracts, and thereby encourage the use of local small businesses during the military buildup.

Rep. Madeleine Bordallo, shortly after the nearly $400,000 grant award was announced, said the PTAC "will leverage the capabilities of the Small Business Development Center at UOG and will arm Guam's businesses with the tools to be successful bidders on federal contracts."

She added, "University of Guam President Dr. Robert Underwood has emphasized the need for greater professional development for the military build-up in areas such as contract specialists. The PTAC at the University of Guam is an opportunity to help achieve this goal and to develop Guam's professional workforce and our business community."

Worker awarded $10K for unpaid wages

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Department of Labor yesterday awarded $10, 273 in unpaid wages and overtime compensation to a long-time employee of a water sports business whose owner moved to Guam.

Labor Administrative Hearing Officer Herbert D. Soll ruled that Frankie R. Tenorio is indebted to the worker, Marciano Manzano, in the amount of $5,136.80 for unpaid regular and overtime wages from Nov. 1, 2006 through June 12, 2007.

Soll also ordered Tenorio to pay the complainant another $5,136.80 in liquidated damages.

He said the award, which is subject to withholding tax, is payable on or before Nov. 15, 2008, at Labor's Collections Unit.

The hearing officer disqualified Tenorio from employing nonresident workers in the CNMI for a period of two years for serious Labor law violations.

Soll said Manzano is eligible for transfer and should register with the Labor Division of Employment Services within seven days.

Manzano was given 30 days to find a new employer.

According to Labor records, Manzano was a long-time employee of Tenorio in his water sports business. Their relationship became casual as they worked together over a period of years. It became so casual that Tenorio moved to Guam and left Manzano in charge of the business on Saipan.

The business was very slow during a large part of the year and Tenorio paid Manzano with small payments far below the contractual and legally enforceable amount.

By March 2007, Tenorio was indebted to Manzano for thousands of dollars. But the respondent agreed to file a renewal for another year's employment, with a promise to pay the unpaid wages.

Some attempt to pay was initially made, but payments soon halted and the amount remaining is still substantial.

Labor denied the attempt at filing a new contract from 2007 to 2008. It was not until the end of 2007 that Manzano filed his Labor complaint against Tenorio.

In his order, Soll said Manzano wants anticipated wages for that period, but the worker should have realized that the employment had come to an end and the attempt to renew the contract had failed.

Soll said Manzano will not be awarded compensatory wages from June 13, 2007 to March 1, 2008.

Soll found Manzano credible and accurate in his testimony regarding the unpaid wages.

CHC's ground lights now powered by solar energy

By KRISTI EATON
kristi_eaton@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Department of Public Works' Energy Division is giving the Commonwealth Health Center an energy transformation.

Thanks to a grant from the U.S. Department's Energy Program, DPW has spent $269,000 on a project to improve CHC's energy efficiency, said Thelma Inos of DPW's Energy Division.

"[CHC] is one of the largest utility users, so we wanted to help the government," she said.

DPW recently installed six solar panels to power the hospital ground's lights, as well as retrofitted lights and replaced exit signs with LED lights to conserve electricity, Inos said.

"This is all apart of the package we're slowly doing," she added.

She estimates the project will reduce energy consumption by 20 to 30 percent.

Depending on funds, Inos said they hope to complete more energy renewable projects. There are plans to install wind turbines at the Saipan office and at Rota's CHC.

Inos said she hopes to work with other government agencies to reduce consumption as well.

Torres says beverage sampling rules 'in conflict'

By STEFAN SEBASTIAN
stefan_sebastian@saipantribune.com
BUSINESS EDITOR

The CNMI Department of Commerce is consulting with the Office of the Attorney General after Rep. Stanley Torres (R-Saipan) in a letter last week cited a potential conflict between local regulations for events that involve the sampling of alcoholic drinks and the laws that govern them.

In the Oct. 21 letter, Torres points to a law that says alcoholic beverage sampling events "may be conducted at any on-sale or off-sale licensed establishment," noting that departmental regulations issued last year carry an added restriction not stipulated in the law.

Under the new regulations, he notes, the owner of an establishment hosting a sampling event must have either a license to serve alcohol or written authorization from the department. Torres contends the requirement that a licensee must own the bar, restaurant or other locale where the event takes place contradicts the law.

"The regulations are in conflict with the law, which permits sampling activities or events to be conducted at any on-sale or off-sale establishment provided that it is a licensed establishment," Torres writes. "In no part of this law does it state that a licensee must own the premises at which an on-sale or off-sale sampling activity or event takes place."

In an interview, David Maratita, director of Commerce's Alcohol, Beverage and Tobacco Control Division, said the department has reviewed the letter and must take up Torres's complaints with the Attorney General.

Island SnapShots

30TH REUNION CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Members of the Marianas High School's Class of 1978 celebrate their 30th reunion at Susupe Beach Park on Oct 26, 2008.

ETC DONATION

Oleai Elementary School extends its appreciation to Sen. Luis P. and Mrs. Maria S. Crisostimo for their donation to OES. The school recently received an Education Tax Credit donation of $1,000 from the Crisostimo couple.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

TRADE SHOW

The Marianas Visitors Authority participated in the 5th East Asia International Travel Fair 2008 in Dalian, a key city in north China, on Oct. 10 - 12, 2008. The event attracted exhibitors from over 20 countries and attendees from all regions of China and elsewhere. In this photo, MVA marketing specialist Leng Bai talks to a tourist about the CNMI.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

HAPPY BIRTHDAY CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Birthday greetings go out to Prisca Cabrera, who is celebrating her birthday today, Oct. 28. Greetings come from her loving husband and her two girls, the rest of her family, and her Oleai Branch First Hawaiian Bank crew.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Due to the National Disability Employment Awareness Month Employment Summit, the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation will be temporarily closed today October 28, 2008 until tomorrow October 29, 2008.

Please call 287-6387 for any urgencies.

Miura widow returns to Japan with cremated remains

The wife of Japanese businessman Kazuyoshi Miura, who died in a police cell in Los Angeles this month while awaiting trial, returned to Japan with his remains on Saturday.

Miura's widow arrived at Narita Airport wearing a black dress and black coat, carrying the remains. After silently passing by a group of about 50 reporters, she left the airport in a van driven by a man believed to be a relative.

Miura's body was cremated in Los Angeles on Thursday. His wife left Los Angeles with his remains the following day.

"My husband's death is yet to be cleared up, but I hope there will be a time someday when the truth will come out and our hearts will be at peace," she said in comments made through the Japanese consulate general in Los Angeles.

Miura was arrested on Saipan, and taken to Los Angeles to face trial over a shooting in the city in 1981 that resulted in the death of his former wife. He died in a police cell on Oct. 10.

Miura's relatives have claimed that Miura was murdered, based on the results of tests carried out by a medical pathologist. Los Angeles police announced that Miura committed suicide in his cell. ***(The Mainichi Daily News)***

NMI students urged to apply for nomination to Naval Academy

Resident Representative Pedro A. Tenorio is accepting applications from students who want to attend the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland for the class entering Fall 2009.

ON THE NET
www.cnmiresrep.com

If interested, you should apply for admission between April of your junior year in high school and January of your senior year in high school. Deadline to apply is Dec. 15, 2008. Early applications are encouraged.

Eligibility requirements for nomination

Must be a U.S. citizen;

Must have graduated from high school no later than June 2009;

Must be between the ages of 17 and 23 years by July 1, 2009;

Must be unmarried, not pregnant and have no legal obligations to support children or other dependents;

Must be academically qualified, with competitive GPA and SAT (CEEB CODE #0059) or ACT (CEEB CODE #7596) scores;

Must have good moral character;

Must be physically and medically qualified;

Must be active in school, community and extracurricular sports or activities;

Must be registered to vote in the CNMI (if under 18 years old, parents must be registered to vote in CNMI).

To apply for nomination

Contact Claire Sablan at the Saipan District Office at (670) 664-5651/2, fax (670) 664-5654 or Herb Yamada in Washington, D.C. at (202) 673-5869, fax (202) 673-5873. Nomination by the Resident Representative does not guarantee appointment to the Service Academies. Visit www.cnmiresrep.com for more details. ***(PR)***

PACIFIC BRIEFS

Palau lawmakers mull minimum wage hike

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (RNZI/PIR)—A bill now before the Palau Senate raises the minimum wage to 3 US dollars per hour for Palau citizens and non-citizens. The current minimum wage is $2.50 an hour for citizens and $1.50 for foreigners. Last week the Senate adopted amendments to the bill which would make the hourly minimum wage the same for citizens and non citizens. The amendments would also remove employee benefits for non citizens such as free housing and food allowances. The measure has been deferred many times on the floor because of the different views of the senators. An earlier version of the measure proposed a minimum wage rate US$3.50 per hour.

Norfolk in danger of becoming failed state

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (RNZI/PIR)—An Australian Cabinet Minister says Norfolk Island is in danger of becoming a failed state. The Home Affairs Minister Bob Debus says the self-governing Pacific island is falling behind Australian national standards in a range of areas and needs to undertake reforms. He says these could include ending the island residents' exemption from paying income tax and extending Commonwealth services to the territory. Norfolk Island, a remote island off Australia's east coast, was first colonized by Polynesians from New Zealand. These first settlers arrived in the 14th or 15th century, and survived for several generations before disappearing. The final fate of these early settlers remains a mystery.

Eighteen cases of dengue reported in Vanuatu

PORT VILA (Vanuatu Daily Post/PIR)—A total of 18 people in Port Vila have been tested as positive for Dengue fever as determined by Laboratory tests undertaken by the Port Vila Medical Centre as of yesterday. While some of the infected patients have undergone recent international travel to Dengue hotspots Daily Post understands that the situation may not be confined only to Vila because there some specific cases of infected individuals from the island of Tanna who have not traveled outside of Vanuatu. George Taleo, who heads the committee set up by the Ministry of Health to tackle the dengue fever threat, revealed that there although the source of the current outbreak of dengue is not currently identified there are no known clusters of infections in any one area.

Bougainville readies for election

MELBOURNE, Australia (Radio Australia/PIR)—A senior Bougainville government minister says there's no standout candidate for next week's by-election in the autonomous Papua New Guinea region. The polls to elect a new leader, run from Nov. 29 to Dec. 12. Trade and Commerce Minister, Joseph Watawi says there are a number of potential candidates who once fought with Joseph Kabui for Bougainville's autonomy. He says, "There are a lot of potential leaders right now in Bougainville who have actually struggled together hand-in-hand with the late president in pursuing the course and the plight of the people of Bougainville."

Fiji women protest men-only meeting

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (RNZI/PIR)—Women's organizations in Fiji have expressed concerns that women will not be represented at today's political meeting organized by the interim administration. Civil society and women's organization were not invited by the interim prime minister Commodore Frank Bainimarama. Fiji Women's Rights Movement executive director, Virisila Buadromo, said it was a great disappointment particularly when one could see that there was no representation of women at all in the 16 political parties that have been invited.

CNMI GOP Rally with Pete "A."
Your Candidate for Delegate to U.S. Congress

The NMI Republican Party &
Committee to Elect Pedro A. Tenorio – Delegate
invite you to join us for a
Roadside Waving – Civic Center
Thursday, October 30th, 2008 from 5:00-6:00 pm.

Following the Waving, please join us at the Civic Center Basketball Court for our

GOP Rally

It will be a fun-filled night with live entertainment, food and drink – All are invited!

If needed, transportation may be provided – please call 287-5658.

This Ad was approved by me, Pete A. Tenorio, and paid for by the Committee to Elect Pedro A. Tenorio-Delegate
P.O. Box 10006, PMB 850, Saipan, MP 96950
www.peteaforcongress.com petea4delegate@yahoo.com

A fateful day in Fort Hood

By SSG FABIAN INDALECIO
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

SSG FABIAN INDALECIO

SSG Julian Manglona poses with his 12-gauge shotgun in Fort Hunter during the annual military training in July-August.

It was a warm evening on Oct. 9. The sky was brightly colored, shot through with deep orange gold rays from the sun just setting over the horizon. Everyone was just chilling outside the barracks, chatting about the upcoming training event, as others talked about their families and friends back home on the islands. A few were having a quiet smoke break underneath the stairwell.

I was walking behind him, remembering his usual friendly smile.

"Hey Jul, you're going running?" I asked the obvious.

"Yeah!" he replied, with a distinctive sound as though he was very proud that I noticed this.

He sure stands out among us, I thought for a brief moment. I usually call him "Jul" for Julian.

"A'nimu hau dai chetlu [A brother who is a persistent hard worker]!" I said as some sort of encouragement.

As he walked away with his running buddy, I remember him glancing back at me with a smile, a sight that will forever be imprinted in my thoughts.

He gave a wave and said, "*Esta* later, Indy!"

Subconsciously, I continued to look as he turned away into the distance. I continued to watch him, as he began his first steps to run his usual route, admiring this soldier's endurance, his persistence and motivation. As he fades away from my view, I decided to join the others for a short evening chat, sharing about Jul's dedication to jogging.

"That guy always love to run!" said someone. "Yep! That's airborne," I said.

That evening, the barracks hallway was echoing with sound, filled with a busy chatter, laughter and movement of soldiers walking in and out. I listened as I lay there quietly in my bunk, not thinking of anything but my families, mixed with what the next day will be.

In the midst of my reverie, my bunk buddy walked in and said in a low voice, "Hey Indy! Did you see what happened out there? They said Julian Manglona collapsed and the ambulance is there."

He seemed very calm as he told me this, so although I was in shock for a moment, I felt reassured that "everything will be alright" for Julian.

After a short moment, though, I had a gut feeling, as if something might be more serious. I thought, "Oh my God!" A flash of thought about Iraq, Jack, and Lieto quickly appeared as if it was just like yesterday. I could vividly see their faces.

"No, it's not going to happen again," I told myself. I struggle with my thought to deny every possible worst scenario. "What could it be? Is he going to be OK? God, I hope he's OK!"

A moment later, the door opened and somebody spoke loudly in the hallway. "Everyone must report downstairs for a formation."

Since mostly everyone were already aware of the incident, we all jumped up from our bunks, while others stopped what they were doing and rushed to our formation area. As we all stood there in the formation, I looked around at everyone, and they were all silent, patiently waiting, as if they were preparing themselves for what they will hear from our first sergeant.

I struggle with denial during what seemed like long minutes, standing and waiting for our first sergeant to give us his report on the status of SSG Julian Manglona. It was a painful silence for everyone. No one was talking, but the sight of worry and sadness were on everyone's faces.

Finally, the moment arrived: Our first sergeant stood before us and said, "Bring it in closer guys and gather around me." He paused for a moment, as if he was not prepared to take on the difficult task of informing us of our fallen comrade. He was well aware that everyone was a relative and family of Julian Manglona, and this would not be an easy task for him.

He said, "I'm sorry to inform you that Julian will no longer be with us…"

There was a sudden roar of shock, mixed with denial among the men. I was confused on how I should feel. Others were in tears but remained silent, shock and disbelief at the sad news suddenly coming upon us. I felt the pain all over again.

After a moment, our chaplain stepped forward and gave a short prayer for Julian and his families, and for all of us to continue remember Julian as a good husband, father and soldier.

On that fateful day, everyone stayed up late as if we were having our own rosary, talking about the best memories we have of Sergeant Manglona.

Early the next morning, a scheduled brigade run took place. Everyone in our company remained in good spirit as we ran, taking turns to carrying the guidon of the Echo Company, as we all remember SSG Julian Manglona.

"Go For Broke!" brother, *yan adios esta man ale hit talu gi lan'git* (goodbye until we see each other again in heaven).

SSG FABIAN INDALECIO

Members of the Echo Company salute during the memorial service for Staff Sergeant Julian Manglona.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

October 28, 1999

Cemetery off-limits

With only a few days left before All Soul's Day, Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio yesterday ordered the temporary closure of the Lower Base Cemetery to protect the people against possible contamination from polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), a cancer-causing chemical present in the area. Tanapag residents have demanded an immediate cleanup of the area as they condemned the U.S. Army Corps. of Engineers during a recent public hearing for failing to ensure that the people are safe from the harmful effects of PCBs. The governor has expressed concern on the lingering presence of PCBs at the cemetery, where there's a high concentration of toxic waste left way back in the '60s.

PSS properties are for official use only

Education Commissioner Rita Hocog-Inos yesterday warned public school teachers and other employees of the Public School System against using government resources for unofficial activities. She also said she will look into reports that a teacher at Hopwood Junior High School had used the school's fax machine to send a petition written by three inmates to Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio. "We don't endorse such kind of activities. We all know that we are not supposed to take advantage of public funds for personal gain," Inos said. Public Safety Commissioner Charles Ingram said last week his department is investigating Hopwood teacher Magdalena Concepcion, who allegedly faxed a handwritten petition from inmates Shawn Appleby, Melvin Basa, and Jeronimo Ada.

October 28, 2002

Nonresidents face tighter check

The Department of Labor and Immigration has employed a stricter procedure in the issuance of permits to nonresident workers following the controversial entry of 39 Egyptians into Saipan. Reportedly, all permits now have to be personally reviewed by Division of Labor Director Dean Tenorio. Review and issuance of permits are previously done by the DOLI's processing unit. "It's one of the effects of the controversy. So, it takes a much longer time to process permits now," a government official said. In an interview, DOLI Secretary Joaquin A. Tenorio confirmed that the DOLI director "evaluates permits if necessary." "If necessary, he (director) could review and sign the approval," Tenorio said, adding that "there are a number of labor investigators" who evaluate the permits prior to issuance.

Ranking DPS officials leaving in Dec.?

The Department of Public Safety may be losing some of its most effective ranking officials, following reports that two police majors and five captains are eyeing a December 2002 retirement. The officials may be aptly called the police department's "brain power," since they occupy critical positions in the agency. They include commandership in several police functions, such as investigation, traffic, boating safety, operations and patrol. When asked about the reported retirement of the officials, DPS Commissioner Edward Camacho said there have been indications although he has not officially heard from the concerned officials yet. "I guess they're up to retire," Camacho added. It was not clear, however, if the officials were opting for early retirement.

October 28, 2003

More security aid for islands

The CNMI, like other Pacific island nations, may benefit from more security aid from the federal government following the formation of a "millennium fund" reportedly earmarked to bolster the security needs of the Pacific region and other eligible recipients, press secretary Peter A. Callaghan reported. According to the public information officer, the potential assistance was bared by President Bush's National Security Advisor, Condoleezza Rice, when the president made an appearance at the Pacific Islands Leaders Conference in Hawaii last week. Gov. Juan N. Babauta and other Pacific heads of state attended that conference.

Feds evaluate CNMI Head Start program

A seven-member visiting Head Start team has begun its weeklong evaluation of the local program to see if it has complied with last year's recommendations amid findings of major deficiencies in implementation. Visiting team leader Richard Ybarra said in an interview that last year's findings showed that the local program' systems were "very dysfunctional" and in need of immediate repair. "We gave them a year to correct those," said Ybarra.

Fiesta Resort provides 1,000 won:$1 guarantee

Despite the plunge in the value of the Korean won, travel agents and Korean tourist s visiting Saipan and staying at Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan will still be able to get more value for their Korean won via an "incentive guarantee."

Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan will guarantee 1,000 won for every US$1, according to Ryan Jung, sales manager for Saipan's Korean market.

"This is just one of the ways we can help the travel agents in passing on better priced options to the consumers. The economic slump in South Korea, coupled with fluctuating declines in the Korean won, has greatly impacted the numbers in tourist arrivals from South Korea," said Jung.

Fiesta's Sales & Marketing Department said it decided to offer this incentive guarantee as a way to benefit travel agents and Korean tourists alike and they hope the travel agents will pass forward this incentive guarantee in a meaningful way. ***(PR)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

CA sets new carry-on baggage size limit

Continental Airlines has announced that effective Nov. 1, 2008, the carry-on baggage requirement will be reduced from 51 linear inches to 45 linear inches within the 50 States, U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico. Maximum weight allowed for carry-on baggage is 40 pounds or 18 kilos. ***(PR)***

An invitation to a haunted house

The Kagman Komunidat Association is inviting the public to the Kagman Haunted House scheduled for Oct. 31st at the Kagman Community Center. Doors open at 7pm. ***(PR)***

Marriage Encounter weekend set

The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend will be held on Nov. 14-16, 2008 at the Saipan Grand Hotel. To join, contact John and Vicky Mafnas at 285-8454, e-mail vbmafnas@yahoo.com.

All Encountered Couples and Priests are invited to share their gifts, talents and time in the planning and hosting of this Weekend. The next Planning meeting will be held Thursday, Oct. 30, at 7pm at the residence of Charles and Cathy Cepeda in Fina Sisu. Bring a potluck dish. ***(PR)***

DEQ cleanup at Tank Beach

The Division of Environmental Quality cleanup brigade will be picking up trash at Tank Beach in Kagman on Saturday, Nov. 1, at 8am. Volunteers will clean until 10am and break for drinks and then continue, if needed.

This month, outstanding brigade volunteers who participated in at least 10 monthly cleanups will receive a brigade cap and those who participated in at least three cleanups will receive a green brigade t-shirt. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. ***(PR)***

Casting call

Auditions will be held for the upcoming play, *It's Beginning To Look A Lot Like Christmas,* the Broadway version of the movie *Miracle on 34th. Street.* Auditions are on Wednesday, Oct. 29, and Thursday, Oct. 30, from 6:30pm to 8:30pm, and on Saturday, Nov. 1, from 2pm to 4pm, at D-101 MHS (Mr. Easton's Studio). Parts are available for children and adults. Call MariLou at 256-9540 for more information. ***(PR)***

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS

REQUEST FOR DEVELOPER PROPOSALS FOR KOBLERVILLE/CAPITOL HILL HOMESTEAD PROJECT

The Department of Public Lands is requesting PROPOSALS (RFP) from QUALIFIED FIRMS (Developers) FOR THE DESIGN, DEVELOPMENT, CONSTRUCTION AND FINANCING OF LOW COST HOUSING UNITS IN KOBLERVILLE AND CAPITOL HILL HOMESTEAD LOTS. THE PROJECT CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING:

PHASE 1: 100 QUADRUPLEX UNITS in Koblerville AND 39 QUADRUPLEX UNITS ON Capitol Hill.

PHASE 2: 100 QUADRUPLEX UNITS IN KOBLERVILLE CONSISTING OF FIFTY EACH TWO BEDROOMS UNITS AND FIFTY EACH THREE BEDROOM UNITS.

THE PROJECT WILL INCLUDE CONSTRUCTION OF BASIC INFRASTRUCTURE SUCH AS ON-SITE WATER AND POWER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS, DRAINAGE FACILITIES, ROADWAYS, SIDEWALKS, AND LANDSCAPING.

Upon completion and acceptance, the Department of Public Lands will work a negotiated payment plan with the winning bidder. The Department of Public Lands will market the homes to potential buyers (qualified homesteaders) and will coordinate and assist with financing for the homeowners through private banks. As each home is completed and homeowner loans are closed, the payment of bank proceeds will be authorized to pay for the construction and transfer of ownership of the residential homes and lots to the buyers.

A PREBID CONFERENCE WILL BE CONDUCTED ON NOVEMBER 5, 2008 AT 10:00 A.M. AT DPL'S CONFERENCE ROOM AT ITS MAIN OFFICE IN DANDAN. Questions from parties CONCERNING THE DETAIL OF THE PROJECT will be entertained AT THAT TIME.

Bid Proposals:

BIDS MUST BE SUBMITTED NO LATER THAN 4:30 PM ON NOVEMBER 28, 2008. Bids must be accompanied by a Bidder's bond in a sum equal to five percent (5%) of the base bid, executed by the bidder or principal and by a surety company RECOGNIZED AND CERTIFIED BY THE COMMONWEALTH INSURANCE COMMISSIONER. SUCH BOND SHALL be forfeited to the Owner should the bidder fail to execute a contract within ten (10) days after Notice of Award. All bids must be in writing, sealed and marked ("Koblerville Homestead Development"; NO FACSIMILES WILL BE ACCEPTED). Bids are to be submitted as to both phases and as a lump sum total. Bids must state that they will remain open for thirty (30) days.

Contractors or members of their teams shall not communicate with the Department's Selection Committee, employees of the Department or the Secretary of the Department except as stipulated per the requirements of this notice. Failure to abide by this requirement may result in rejection of the Contractor's submittal. The Department of Public Lands reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to re-advertise for bids when it is in the best interest of the Department of Public Lands.

John S. DelRosario, Jr., Secretary

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XVIII, Issue No. 302

Published daily at 2/F CIC Centre,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

Lynn A. Knight PUBLISHER
Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER
The Associated Press
Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Rogues gone bust

A few weeks ago, the leaders of Russia, Iran and Venezuela were gloating gleefully that the financial crisis would depose the United States as the world's leading power. Yet as the price of oil dropped below $65 last week—or less than half its peak price last summer—it was looking more likely that global economic turmoil would produce a quite different result: the substantial weakening of those countries' challenge to U.S. interests in Europe, the Middle East and Latin America.

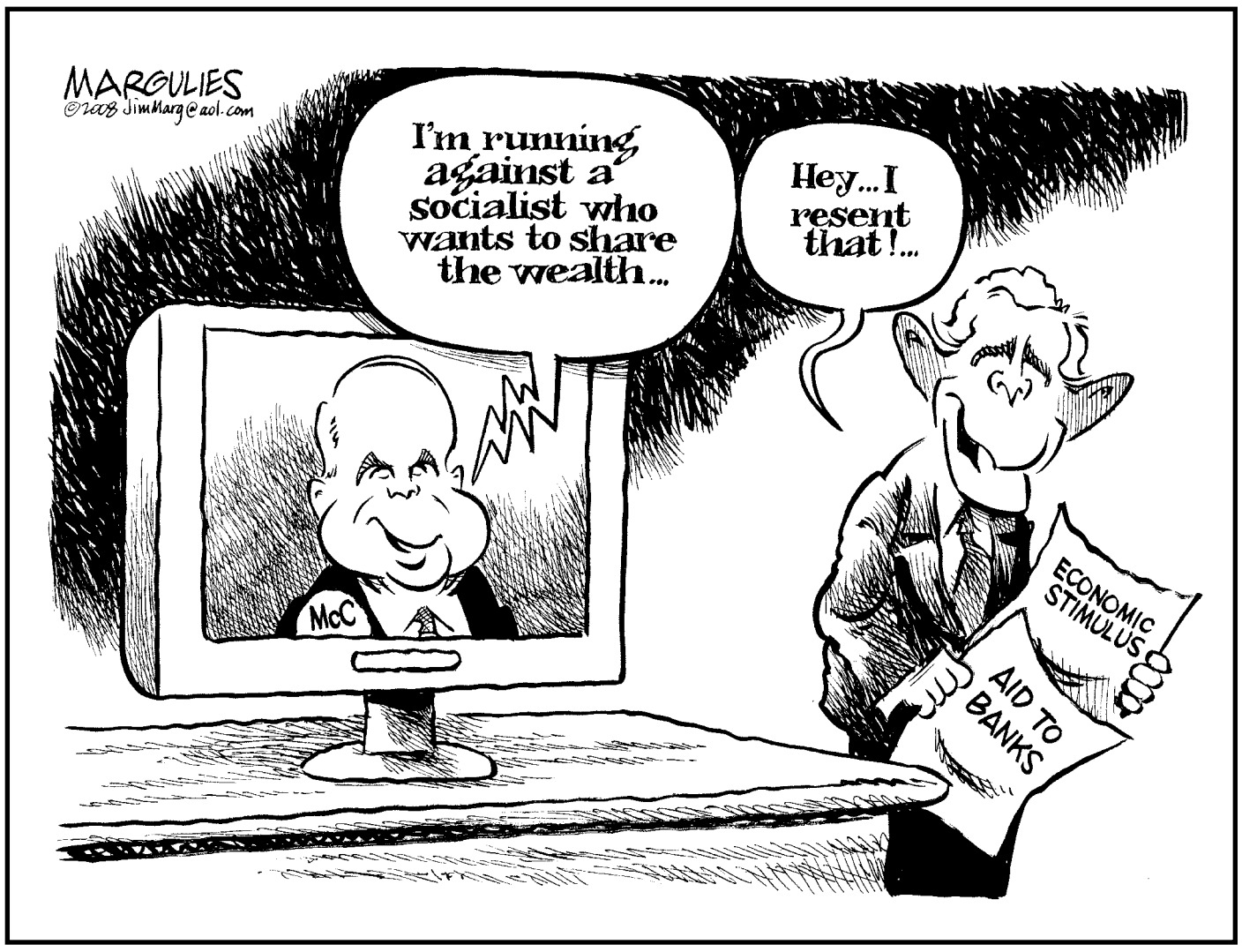
Unless oil prices quickly recover, Venezuela's Hugo Ch vez and Iran's Mahmoud Ahmadinejad are likely to face even tougher domestic economic challenges in 2009 than the next U.S. president. According to independent estimates, both countries need an average oil price of up to $95 a barrel to fund the populist subsidies and social programs they have launched in recent years—not to mention billions of dollars in arms purchases from Russia. Venezuela has been furiously importing food to fill empty shop shelves, while Iran heavily subsidizes domestic fuel. Even if Mr. Ch vez and Mr. Ahmadinejad manage to continue those politically sensitive programs, they may find it harder to sponsor foreign clients—from Hamas and Hezbollah in the Middle East to Cuba's Castro brothers. Already Mr. Ch vez has stiffed Nicaragua's Daniel Ortega, to whom he had promised a $4 billion oil refinery.

Though somewhat less reliant on oil revenue, Russia may be even worse off, because of its dependence on foreign investment. The Russian stock market has dropped more than 70 percent since last spring, and Prime Minister Vladimir Putin has had to commit more than $200 billion of the country's reserves to shore up banks. In the past several years, Mr. Putin has several times interrupted energy deliveries to European clients to make political points; he may have less financial leeway to wield that weapon in the future.

Will the decline of revenue lessen the hostility of these regimes toward the United States? There are some intriguing early signs. Russia unexpectedly announced last week that it would not oppose an extension of the U.N. mandate for U.S. troops in Iraq. Though it has refused to rein in its nuclear program, Iran has at least temporarily curbed Hamas, Hezbollah and the "special groups" of Iraq, which in recent months have all but ceased attacks on American and Israeli targets.

Mr. Ch vez was notably disturbed when both Barack Obama and John McCain pledged in their final debate to eliminate U.S. dependence on Venezuelan oil within a decade. The caudillo quickly appeared on television with an appeal to the candidates that "instead of saying that they are going to free themselves (of Venezuelan oil), what we have to do is sit down and talk and come to an agreement because we need each other." Is that the "Bolivarian revolutionary" suddenly seeking rapprochement with "the empire?" If so, it may not be the last such offer that the global economic crisis delivers to the next president's desk.

(c) 2008, The Washington Post



Rocky Market Horror Show

By SEBASTIAN MALLABY
Special to The Washington Post

Mallaby is a fellow for International Economics with the Council on Foreign Relations.

Like the plot of some blockbuster horror movie, the financial crisis shifts from scene to scene with terrifying speed. It opened with a real estate crunch, which hit homeowners and mortgage lenders but left much of the economy unscathed. It continued to a broader banking crunch, in which car loans, business loans and all manner of lending unconnected to real estate suddenly became impossible to obtain. Now, simultaneously, come three new phases of the turmoil in split-screen Technicolor. The non-financial, or "real," economy is collapsing. Once-solid emerging markets are imploding. And trading strategies predicated on the robustness of those emerging markets are being dumped hastily, driving brutal volatility in markets around the world.

Let's start with the (limited) good news. The real estate monsters have lost some of their ferocity, at least for the moment. On Friday, the National Association of Realtors reported that the number of homes sold was up 5.5 percent from August to September. This is the first time in three years that this measure has been positive. Although home prices are still falling, the fact that buyers are plunking down money suggests some light at the end of this particular tunnel.

And government efforts to alleviate the banking crunch appear to be working. Three weeks ago, the payments system in the rich economies was broken. Banks refused to lend to each other even for very short periods; everyone was hoarding cash. By strengthening banks with injections of taxpayers' money and by promising taxpayer guarantees to people who lent money to the banking system, the authorities in the United States and Europe have restored confidence. Despite extraordinary turbulence in the equity and currency markets last week, banks continued lending to each other at interest rates slightly below the panic point.

But there is a lot more bad news than good news. It begins with a recession, both in the United States and abroad. The Fed recently announced that U.S. industrial production in the third quarter was down 6 percent from the same period in 2007; this was the steepest decline since 1991. On Friday, Britain reported its worst gross domestic product figure since 1990—output in the third quarter fell 0.5 percent from the second quarter. Germany recently cut its 2009 growth forecast from 1.2 percent to 0.2 percent. These recession signals explain part of the rout in the rich world's stock markets. In the past three days of trading, the S&P 500-stock index has lost 8 percent. The Japanese and European stock indexes are down 18 percent and 10 percent, respectively.

Next you have the extraordinary meltdown in emerging markets. A month ago, observers were describing the International Monetary Fund as irrelevant. Today it is negotiating bailouts for a dozen countries. In the second quarter, Brazil was growing at an annual rate of 6.1 percent, South Korea at 4.8 percent and Russia at 7.8 percent. Now, all are battling financial crises. Not long ago, the Russians and Koreans were shunting billions of dollars of spare capital into sovereign wealth funds, to be used to buy up Western companies. Today, it's not clear they have enough capital to fix their own financial sectors.

The collapse in the emerging markets has punished a whole variety of behaviors known as the "carry trade." In the years before the crisis, interest rates in the United States and Japan were low. You could borrow in one of those currencies and lend in Australian dollars or Russian rubles. So long as the currency you owed didn't rise against the currency you lent in, you could pocket the difference in the interest rate, often five percentage points or so.

Everybody was in on this. Hedge funds borrowed vast amounts of yen and lent it out in high-interest-rate currencies or used it to buy stocks in emerging markets, U.S. mortgage securities or whatever else paid a good yield. Japanese housewives did the same thing, buying foreign stocks and bonds with money borrowed from high street brokers. Russian banks borrowed cheaply from Westerners in dollars and lent expensively in rubles. In a European variation on the carry trade, Eastern European home buyers arranged mortgages denominated in Swiss francs or euros.

Now all of these currency bets are exploding. The currencies that used to be cheap to borrow are soaring in value, and the ones that reaped rewards for owners are plummeting. In the past month, the Japanese yen has jumped 34 percent against the Australian dollar and 18 percent against the ruble. A lot of speculators in a lot of places are getting pummeled. The more they rush to get out of their positions, the more they reinforce the currency moves that cripple anybody who's still trapped in the carry trade. And the more havoc all of this wreaks in emerging economies.

How this plays out is anybody's guess. The same bug-eyed panic that was evident among bankers last month has seized traders of emerging-market currencies. The really scary thing is that the crisis has migrated into parts of the financial system that are tough to rescue. When push came to shove, the Federal Reserve, the Treasury and their European counterparts could stand behind the banking system. But now we are talking about hedge funds, which lie beyond the traditional reach of regulators, and emerging markets, some of whose governments lack the cash to stage bailouts. Unlike your standard horror movie, there's no telling when this one will end.

No Social Security 'safety net' for many govt retirees

As the Legislature 'opted out' of the U.S. system in favor of NMI's Retirement Fund

Editor's Note: In the absence of publicly released, in-depth analyses on many issues related to the NMI's Retirement Fund, the author advances his personal opinions for consideration by interested retirees from the perspective of "one of their own" who is also an economist, a retiree and 35 year resident of the NMI and was, as they say, "present at the beginning."

Last of a two-part series

There are all sorts of unpleasant consequences that can be expected to occur sometime in the future if the NMI Retirement Fund can't fulfill its obligation to those who depend on receiving their bimonthly pension and if the government doesn't fulfill its financial obligation to the Fund. One unfortunate result being the possibility of bankruptcy for those whose only source of income is their retirement check and who have debts they won't be able to repay. For them bankruptcy may be the only way out. If and when that were to occur people would lose not only their pension but possibly much more through the court's liquidation process. Your mother may love you but the auto dealer and the bank do not.

Perhaps there is some wishful thinking within the central government that the U.S. government will step in and bail the Commonwealth government out of the financial hole it has dug. I wouldn't count on it. Why should the U.S. clean up a mess it had no part in creating? Besides, the U.S. government is broke and has a financial mess of its own making to clean up.

I would imagine that the Commonwealth's financial requirements for "bail-out" money for an abused retirement system would receive little sympathy in congressional appropriation committees. Indeed, a request for funds for such a purpose, if it were to be eventually made, might shine a spotlight on other issues that some in the islands might wish could be avoided.

Thus, when not receiving favorable results from their appeal to Congress for direct financial assistance from the U.S. Treasury, the U.S. government and the Department of the Interior, along with the appropriation committees of Congress, should not be surprised when the day arrives when Commonwealth politicos go to Washington with hat in hand, requesting an increase in food stamp allowances; expanded subsidized rental housing and increased funding to provide for free medical services at CHC, to mention only a few charitable programs.

If my memory serves me correctly I believe it was legislation passed by the 5th Legislature "opting out" of the U.S. Social Security system for government direct hire civil service employees in favor of a locally operated NMI Retirement Fund. This occurred around the beginning of the "economic boom," with every sector of the economy growing at 16 percent per year across the board. As usual, government employees were not given a voice in the matter of selecting their retirement program. I think I'm correct in the NMI's relinquishing of the possibility of Social Security coverage was retroactive to January 1986 or 1987 and those Social Security taxes that had been withheld were refunded to government employees.

The primary reason being that the many duplicate benefits provided by Social Security and the Federal Medicare program would have cost the employee and the NMI government's employer contributions substantial amounts of money. So, in an act of self-government, the CNMI chose to create its own program that, as it turns out, can be easily manipulated by the Legislature.

> *I am well aware that there will be those who criticize my observation as being pessimistic and they will be right. The retirees' pensions are in serious jeopardy, make no mistake about it.*

Because the NMI government decided not to participate in the U.S. Social Security system and instead formed its own retirement system, Commonwealth retirees are now particularly vulnerable if conditions in their own retirement program aren't straightened out—and soon. Under it's own system, CNMI financial contributions which should have made to the employee's retirement program—but haven't been—must obviously have been used for other purposes to the detriment of the long-term interests of retirees, present and future. Perhaps the court can determine what the diversions might have been.

By WILLIAM H. STEWART
Special to the Saipan Tribune

William H. Stewart is an economist, historian, and military cartographer.

So, where does it leave the retirees? Those of retirement age who have worked for the NMI government should not have to contend with the aggravation of an indifferent central government that won't pay is debt, now approaching $200 million. It just isn't right and people deserve better from past and present administrations.

For those participating in the defined contribution plan, I won't even get into the requirement for the central government to pay 7.65 percent on the gross income of each employee's salary to Social Security as a FICA tax (26 USC 6051). If I understand correctly, this is in addition to the 4 percent government contribution to an employee's individual 401K or IRA retirement plan. But check it out if it affects you.

I am well aware that there will be those who criticize my observation as being pessimistic and they will be right. The retirees' pensions are in serious jeopardy, make no mistake about it. In my judgment people should be made aware of the situation so they could plan accordingly as best as they can. While there is still time. Anticipate the possible personal family difficulties that may lie ahead and plan for them. Have a contingency plan if possible—that's all I'm saying.

If you think the above is a grim outlook, wait until it comes to pass and the bottom falls out, which it will in due time unless something isn't done to correct the situation.

You might wonder what one person can do? Recognize that there is strength in numbers and associate as a force for change by applying pressure. Contact your elected officials and Fund trustees. Let them know what you would like done—it's very much the America way. They are your servants, you are not their's.

As for the Fund's lawsuit against the central government which has been pending unresolved for almost 13 months, my dear ol' granny would say, "Billy, justice delayed is justice denied. Thirteen months is about the length of the gestation period of a cow, my goodness!"

Letters to the Editor

Clarification on leaked letter

I write to clarify the issue concerning yesterday's reports in both the *Saipan Tribune* and *Marianas Variety* concerning a letter that was supposedly sent to Mr. James Connaughton, chairman of President Bush's Council on Environmental Quality.

It is true that I, Speaker Palacios, and Governor Fitial signed the letter that was to have been delivered to Mr. Connaughton during our meeting with him and the other visiting officials in the Governor's Office on Wednesday.

The letter represented our position regarding the present status of the monument issue, which, in essence, stated that if the administration was attempting to rush a designation on the people of the CNMI without meaningful discussion of our concerns, and attention paid to our submerged lands issues, we would like to have no part in the designation and would prefer that the designation not occur.

My position in that regard has not changed, and will not change.

The letter was printed and circulated to Mr. Connaughtin and the other attendees at the meeting. I do not believe Mr. Connaughton ever read the letter, however, because Governor Fitial decided to withdraw the letter.

I believe this was done in the spirit of cooperation that was forged at our very productive meeting on Wednesday. To my knowledge, most of the copies were collected, to be destroyed. I myself collected a number of them.

I do not know why or how it was released to the media, and it was unfortunate that it was because my understanding is that the letter was voided by Governor Fitial's decision.

I would also like to highlight the fact (not reported by either paper) that the position letter did contain the following:

"In closing, we are AGAINST the designation at this time, because there is nothing for us to support. There has been no concrete proposal; in fact, the only thing that exists is a notion that some sort or designation, in some form, might be a good idea. We are willing to discuss these important issues, and are willing to make them a priority. We hope we can find common ground."

I felt the meeting ended on a positive note. My impression was the Mr. Connaughton heard and understood our position, and he promised to consider them all fully. I expect he and the Governor will be in close communication regarding this issue soon.

Sen. Pete P. Reyes
Capital Hill, Saipan

Abiba tradision Chamolinian

Deste tutuhon taotao guine siha na islas, si guelo yan guela dos lugat sesso mabisisita gi rinikohen mantension familia, era i tase yan tano. Diariamente man-machochu gi gualo. Guaha na haane `nai ha tulos siha para i tase para u fan peska `sino man-hanao man-kasadules gi halom tano. Este na modun linala` tradision natibu deste antigu na tiempu.

Gi este na kinalamten familia, famaguon natibu mañasaonao gi offision gualo yan peska. Estague` plaset makreansan patgon isla gi hafa debi u tuñgo pot para satbasioña `an esta dicho taotao. Gi todo pot todo, mañasaonao este siha na famaguon gi chechu familia. Kao peska, muna` gasgas gi gualo, kasadules, mananom pat man-limiendan talaya, todo ineyag niha ginen as guelo yan guela.

Fuera de ineyag pot linala, guaha siha finanaguen mañainata tat komo tradision respeto gi famaguon niha. Yangin un` patgon motmut respeto giya guiya mismo, pues siña ha respeta i prohimuña gi maseha mano na komundat natibu. Sumen na` banidosu este gi famaguon natibu piot gi halom linahyan. I mañan famaguon guiya espehos i dos saina gi hafa hafananague famaguon niha.

Yangin malulog mauleg i patgon pot respeto pues todo kinalamteña siempre ha respeta propiadat otro, difirensiao na opiñion taotao, yan otro siha asunton echu taotao. Gi todo pot todo, motmut respeto para guiya mismo ya ha embrasa prohimuñad siha.

■■■

Dispues de umeyag i patgon respeto, makreansa lokue nu i mañainaña sensian hinimidde. Dumaña i respeto yan hinimidde gi mañan ennao na patgon ya ha tutuhon kumomprende sentido na sentimenton prohimuña gi oriyaña. Ha tuñgo estao prohimuña ya ha lagnos kanaiña para u fan ayuda gi checho linahyan pat `an gai chinatsaga i otro taotao.

Gi halom dinaña, umekuñgo mauleg hafa siha man-madeskukute. Listo man-nae` antao na rason pot para u esgaihon mona i dinaña hunta. Gaige giya guiya sensian hinimidde para u adelanta hafa mauleg asunton inetnon. Taya `nai ha plachae` i madiskukute soluke para u atbansa hafa para minauleg todos.

Este i dos attikulo, sumen presisu para maseha haye na hobensito `sino hobensita. Lao gaige mofona giya hululo i ineyag linala espirituat `nai siña mas masimiento mañan respeto yan hinimidde. Yotte ennao na añkla gi fondun tasen linala`mu. Ni hafa na chubasko u fatto, huñgan siña kinilili hao gi un` banda lao ti u lailai boten haanimo katkuet direksion. Siempre un` gai tiempo mangagao para u klaro hinasomu.

Gi maseha hafa na estao `nai gaige hao pago, finañagon haf` bidamu antes ayo mina` gaige hao guine na tiempo. Yangin un` un` usune i guaguan na tiempo antes, pues seguruyu na libiano linala`mu pago. Yangin un` despetdisia, pues guaha siha chinatsagamo ya soluke un` espiha haf` debi de un` aregla gi haanimu, gatdon hao gi mano `nai uma`akalaye` hao na tiempo.

Pot uttimo, ha pega i Saina ilumu gi hilo apagamo ya hana talag mena. Guaha motibu na ha pega iluta ya hana` fana` mona. Gi silensio na patte pago na haane, hason ñaihon hafa sustansian i pago hu deskukute pot ilon taotao gi hilo apaga niha. Sen mas, bien felis para todos.

John DelRosario
Koblerville, Saipan

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

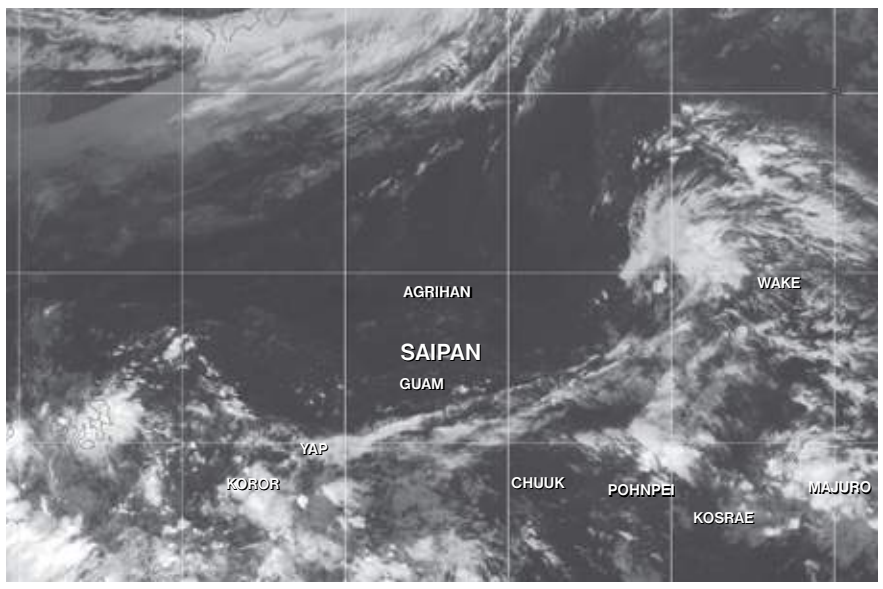
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Cloudy	▲88	▼79
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼78
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼78
Chuuk	Mostly Cloudy	▲88	▼77
Pohnpei	Cloudy	▲90	▼79
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼81
Majuro	Showers	▲88	▼79

Around The Globe

Auckland	Cloudy	▲64	▼57
Beijing	Cloudy	▲65	▼52
Hong Kong	Partly Sunny	▲86	▼75
Honolulu	Cloudy	▲81	▼74
London	Cloudy	▲45	▼34
Los Angeles	Cloudy	▲83	▼58
Manila	Cloudy	▲88	▼77
Melbourne	Sunny	▲73	▼50
Miami	Mostly Sunny	▲76	▼57
New York	Cloudy	▲55	▼39
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	▲66	▼56
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	▲47	▼35
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲68	▼49
Rome	Thunderstorms	▲71	▼59
Salem	Partly Sunny	▲65	▼43
San Francisco	Cloudy	▲70	▼52
Seoul	Partly Sunny	▲57	▼41
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	▲69	▼55
Washington, DC	Partly Sunny	▲53	▼38

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00AM, MONDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2008
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A monsoon trough extends southeastward from 5N130E to EQ142E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms associated with the trough are occurring just south of Koror or south of a line from 8N130E to 6N136E to eq144E. An upper-level low is currently centered northwest of Wake Island at 21N157E. Upper-level divergence east and southeast of the low is combining with trade-wind convergence to generate scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms north of a line from 24N157E to 23N162E to 17N159E to 17N163E to 24N171E. Trade-wind convergence is combining with upper-level divergence to generate a broad swath of cloudiness. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms across much of Micronesia. This area includes Yap, Chuuk, Pohnpei, Kosrae, Kwajalein and Majuro and is bounded by a line from 9N135E to 12N158E to 9N180 to 5N180 to 5N138E back to 9N135E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor		
1:10AM Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet
7:35AM Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
1:16PM Today	Low Tide:	0.9 Feet
6:38PM Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:12AM	5:50 PM
Wednesday	6:12AM	5:49 PM
Thursday	6:12AM	5:49 PM
Friday	6:13AM	5:48 PM
Saturday	6:13AM	5:48 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	5:17AM	5:07PM
Wednesday	6:08AM	5:47PM
Thursday	7:00AM	6:30PM
Friday	7:53AM	7:16PM
Saturday	8:46AM	8:05PM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 1, 2008

DEPARTURES

Saipan-Rota

CO9597	11:50am	12:25pm	1,7

Saipan-Guam

CO9317	4:00am	4:50am	Daily
CO9313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily
CO9597	11:50am	1:20pm	1,7 via Rota
CO9601	12:30pm	1:20pm	Daily
CO9603	3:30pm	4:20pm	Daily
CO9605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily
CO9599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily

Saipan-Narita

NW 099	5:00am	7:30am	Daily
NW 078	8:55am	2:00pm	Daily
NW 075	4:55pm	7:25pm	Daily

Saipan-Osaka

NW 083	4:20pm	6:55pm	Daily

Saipan-Nagoya

NW 078	8:55am	11:35am	Daily

Saipan-Seoul

OZ 604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ 604	2:50am	6:30am	2,3,4,5,6,7
OZ 606	3:30pm	7:00pm	2,4,6,7

Saipan-Busan

OZ 608	3:50am	7:20am	1,5

Saipan-Shanghai

FM 844	3:15am	5:55am	2,6

Rota-Guam

CO 9597	12:50pm	1:20pm	1,7

Guam-Manila

CO 893	5:50pm	9:10pm	3,5 via Koror
CO 933	7:00pm	8:40pm	Daily
PR 111	6:00am	7:45am	1,2,4,6,7

ARRIVALS

Rota-Saipan

CO 9598	3:25am	4:00am	5,6

Guam-Saipan

CO 9316	2:30am	3:20am	Daily
CO9598	2:30am	4:00am	5,6 via Rota
CO9596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
CO9600	10:20am	11:10am	Daily
CO9602	2:00pm	2:50pm	Daily
CO9604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
CO9606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily

Narita-Saipan

NW 076	10:15am	2:50pm	Daily
NW 077	6:25pm	1:30am+1	Daily
NW 100	8:45pm	1:20am+1	Daily

Osaka-Saipan

NW 084	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily

Nagoya-Saipan

NW 077	9:00pm	1:30am+1	Daily

Seoul-Saipan

OZ 605	9:00am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ 603	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
OZ 603	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1,2,3,4,5,6

Busan-Saipan

OZ 607	9:30pm	2:50am+1	4,7

Shanghai-Saipan

FM 843	7:50pm	2:15am+1	1,5

Guam-Rota

CO 9598	2:30am	3:00am	5,6

Manila-Guam

CO 892	10:10pm	5:30am+1	3,5 via Koror
CO 934	10:55pm	4:30am+1	Daily
PR 110	10:20pm	4:00am+1	1,3,5,6,7

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; PR: Philippine Airlines; CZ: China Southern; CA: Air China; NW: Northwest; JO: Japan Airlines; OZ: Asiana; MU: China Eastern ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota			
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily
Guam-Rota			
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily
Saipan-Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**			
FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, CIC Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Sunday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $182. Off-island subscription rate is $376 per year. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

A new day is dawning for the CNMI

Editor's Note: All delegate candidates are being given this one opportunity to make their case to our readers through this section for the duration of the election season. This is separate from the Candidate Forum, which ended with the Oct. 17 edition.

By JOHN H. DAVIS JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John H. Davis Jr. is a candidate for CNMI delegate.

Dear People of the Commonwealth: I don't like to write long letters, however I think this is very important. On Nov. 4 you will decide who will be the first representative of the people of the Northern Mariana Islands to sit in the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States. You are going to make an important and historic decision concerning the future of the Commonwealth. Before you vote, the question that you must ask yourself is whether you want to continue the good old boys system of politics. Do you want to continue the system of politics that have not served the Commonwealth very well? Do you want the politics of whom you know and into what family you happen to be born? Do you want the politics of negotiable principles and lack of integrity? Do you want the politics of self- aggrandizement and no morals or ethics? Do you want a representative without a real plan or vision?

Sure, you have heard the other candidates say that they will work with this agency or that agency. They say they will get you more rebate money. They say they will get more money for CUC. They say they will get more money for education. They say they will get you just about everything and anything. It all depends on to whom they are speaking. They depend on you not understanding the democratic process. Most of them have said the same things to you before. But what they deliver is money and power for themselves. They deliver to the rest of us bad plans for power and water. They deliver to the rest of us business closings and lack of economic opportunity. They deliver for the rest of us millions of dollars being sent out of the Commonwealth each year while nothing is brought back in. They delivered federalization of the most unique political association with the United States. Soon we will be little more than another U.S. territory. They should be ashamed, but instead they want you to elect them to Congress. Instead, they want to take the same failed nonsense to Washington, D.C.

On the other hand, I am the candidate who believes in the people of the CNMI. I believe in the future of the Commonwealth. I believe that the CNMI should be as self-sustaining and independent as possible. I believe that we should stand on our own two feet and demonstrate our self-reliance. I am the only candidate with a coherent plan for improving our economic situation. To that end: I will introduce legislation to have the U.S. Congress transfer the jurisdiction and control of the Exclusive Economic Zone and submerged lands surrounding the CNMI from the United States to the CNMI. I will ask for the establishing and locating of federal offices and agencies, such as Small Business Administration and other federal economic business incubator agencies, in the CNMI. I will introduce legislation to have a Veterans Administration medical facility built in the CNMI. I will lobby to have federally funded projects brought to the CNMI. These are but a few of the areas for which my campaign has already prepared legislation.

If you are tired of the same old failed politics, if you are tired of politicians lying to you, if you are tired of feeling cheated, if you are tired of looking backwards and are ready to move forward, then I ask you to vote for me, John H. Davis, Jr., number seven (7) on the ballot. A new day is dawning for the CNMI. It is time to vote for truth, honesty and integrity for a change. Thank you.

Letters to the Editor

No to the proposed national marine monument

Editor's Note: The following letter is being printed in two parts due to its length.

First of a two-part series

I have listened, read, and watched the ongoing debate regarding the proposal to have 115,000 square miles of our limited resources designated as a national marine monument. After my exhaustive review, I have come to the conclusion that the proposal is *not* in the best interest of the people of the Commonwealth at this time.

I am a Chamorro of Northern Marianas descent and have had the opportunity to see and spend some quality time in our Northern Islands. As Special Assistant to the late Northern Islands Mayor Joseph Ogumoro, I have had the opportunity to see and walk on these beautiful islands.

I am happy that we are now realizing that the CNMI has 14 islands, 10 of which are north of Saipan. When I was with the Northern Islands Mayor's Office, I tried to bring public attention to the fact that residents of Anatahan, Alamagan, Pagan, and Agrigan live in deplorable conditions and need basic infrastructure to improve their quality of life. There is no running water, no electricity, no schools, no health facilities, no ports, and no infrastructure to make daily living safe and sustainable. The Northern Islands are probably the last places on this planet that still flies the U.S. flag despite their living conditions being worse than most Third World countries. Can the federal government do something about this? Can the proponents of the monument, including Pew, allocate equal amount of time and resources to help address these inhumane conditions?

The proposal to designate a significant amount of the CNMI's Northern Islands' natural resources as a marine monument is inappropriate, untimely, a circumvention of the democratic process, and an affront to the people of the CNMI. The local proponents are helping Pew carry out their agenda by encouraging the use of the Antiquities Act of 1906. This old federal law authorizes the U.S. President to single-handedly designate any federal public lands as national monuments to cut through bureaucratic impasse and protect vital natural areas under imminent threat. Apparently, the Act was motivated by the *destruction and looting of archaeological sites in the late 1800s* and archaeologists were worried that *"historical sites were being plundered and the artifacts disappearing into private collections or overseas museums."*

The 115,000 square miles of submerged land proposed for the monument is not under any imminent threat and the issue of submerged landownership is still emerging, thus it is inappropriate to use the Antiquities Act. There are mainly three types of threats that I am aware of that may adversely affect or cause imminent danger to the Northern Islands. These include pollution caused by human presence, biological, and geologic and/or other natural catastrophe.

Few people, if any, will object to "conservation" but most disagree with the mechanism or tool being proposed, the amount of misinformation being disseminated regarding imminent threats to the area, and the permanent stripping of local control over limited resources. Not supporting the current monument proposal does not mean that we do not support conservation. To the contrary, if the area proposed for the monument is under imminent threat, and designating the area as a monument will protect it from further damage, I will be the first one in line to support such a move. But in the absence of any urgency, let us not jump the gun and deprive our future generation the ability to decide for themselves what they want to do with the limited resources. This is also where the proponent's use of our young children in their crusade is inappropriate.

To date, I have not seen any evidence to show that human presence is causing any type of damage to the area. Second, the threats from "crown of thorns" or other biological presence have not been documented either. Third, the designation of the area as a monument is not going to stop volcanoes, tsunami, earthquakes, typhoons, or other natural disasters from happening. To suggest otherwise is outright ludicrous.

Further, if you look closely at the proposal you will see that the proposed monument is not going to get any direct federal funding but a possible reprogramming of limited funds from other federal parks accounts. With only three months left in the Bush Administration, a projected budget deficit of over $600 billion, and the close to $1 trillion bailout of Fannie Mae, Freddy Mac, AIG, bank rescue, and other Wall Street problems, there is no room for additional appropriation for the CNMI National Marine Monument. The federal government will, in effect, take possession of our land and invest almost nothing in it in return other than the initial publicity stunt from their "Blue Legacy" project.

I reviewed the Pew-funded economic report by Dr. Tom Iverson where he calculated that a marine monument would produce up to 400 new jobs, generate $10 million in new annual spending, and $14 million in sales. Unfortunately, the report is full of "assumptions" including findings that there are insufficient data in the CNMI to make any reliable predictions or forecasts to make economic projections based on these same questionable data. Further, efforts were made to "compare" with other marine monuments. Again, the jurisdictions and circumstances used in the comparisons are different and the existing state infrastructures at those jurisdictions are different. The report in my opinion is an excellent exercise within the circles of academia but in reality is nothing more than a pipe dream.

As a matter of principle, I do not agree giving up local control of our limited resources. However, if federalization is to occur, the U.S. Congress is the most appropriate body to act on this matter as more time will be available for local participation and federal funding can be appropriated to develop a true national monument. To use the Antiquities Act is not the appropriate vehicle as the only urgency in this matter is that President Bush has less than three months left in office and the issue of submerged land ownership is still being debated.

For those who claim that we have no right to object as we do not own the area now, I say do not be too quick. As noted, the issue surrounding ownership of our submerged lands is not final yet. As it currently stand, the Chamorros and Carolinians of Northern Marianas descent own the land in the Northern Marianas as provided for in our Constitution whether the land is surface or submerged.

The CNMI did not become a member of the American political family as "spoils of war". The CNMI in the Covenant, establishing the political relationship between the CNMI and the U.S., did not surrender ownership of its submerged lands to the federal government. In fact, the federal government (recognizing the validity of the CNMI's ownership over its lands) entered into long-term lease agreements for our lands, including the submerged lands, as in the case of the military leases on Tinian, Saipan Tanapag harbor, and Farallon de Mendinilla. Why then would the federal government lease land from us if they claim they own it in the first place?

Edward C. DeLeon Guerrero
Koblerville, Saipan

Taotao Tano position on proposed marine monument: Part II

Further review of the Pew Charitable Trust and Friends of the Marianas issues as to why they fully support the marine monument proposal is the report of illegal fishing activities taking place around and in the exclusive economic zone at our northernmost islands, especially long-liner vessels from Asian countries. Recent reports of the U.S. Coast Guard intercepting illegal foreign fishing vessels further support their concerns and at times the blame was pointed at our local government for not monitoring these areas. We would like to point out further our concerns and issues regarding this matter which reflects back to the Paramount Doctrine we mentioned earlier in terms of sovereignty, foreign affairs and defense matters as being the sole reason we lost our rights to ownership over our submerged lands as indigenous Northern Mariana-descent Chamorros and Carolinians.

Taotao Tano would like to bring everyone's attention back to our Covenant Agreement in Political Union with the United States, specifically Section 104. This section provides that the United States will have complete responsibility for and authority with respect to foreign affairs and defense of the Northern Mariana Islands. This section had been included in order to make very clear that the United States will have this authority. The concept of sovereignty is closely tied to foreign affairs and defense matters. Throughout the American political family, foreign affairs and defense is a federal responsibility, as made explicit in the U.S. Constitution and the Paramount Doctrine. Again, it totally contradicts the issues as to why a monument should be substituted in place of foreign affairs and defense matters, especially with our three northernmost islands. Our government has long been mistakenly blamed for not being able to do anything such as patrol our borders around our northernmost islands and uninhabited islands but border control is a federal responsibility as stipulated in the Paramount Doctrine and Section 104 of our Covenant Agreement. Our government is bound by the U.S. Constitution to act on any local legislation seeking to take back our submerged lands, and in fact questions are still lingering between the difference of "submerged lands and real property," which was not clear in our Covenant Agreement.

Therefore, we must hold off on this monument proposal until clarity is achieved, and a solid agreement is made and that everything being said, offered, negotiated, or promised is put down in black and white and signed by both our government and the federal government to ensure that we strike a balance, understanding and respect for one another. We must be given the opportunity to retain our submerged lands and the waters surrounding them within a reasonable distance such as a 9-12 mile ownership.

Gregorio Cruz Jr.
President, Taotao Tano CNMI Inc.

Business

Wall Street workers leaving NYC for fresh start

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP)—Bankers and brokers looking to escape the financial meltdown are scrambling to relocate their families, possessions and rarified talent far from Wall Street to places such as Florida, Chicago, Milwaukee, Virginia and Asia.

Travis Lacey left investment bank Jeffries & Co. and Wall Street behind in September to work for Baird in Chicago. He also left behind the nagging sense of worry that had plagued him since his company had started announcing layoffs earlier in the year.

"Anyone in that environment, you never know what's going to happen," Lacey said. "There are a lot of good bankers that unfortunately are at the wrong place at the wrong time, especially in New York."

Corporate headhunters say Wall Street's malaise will lead to a permanent talent loss for New York. It could help small boutique firms become bigger players with employees they would never have been able to lure from the city long-regarded as the world's financial capital.

"We're definitely hiring," said Robert Escobio, chief executive officer of Coral Gables, Fla.-based Southern Trust Securities Inc., a broker-dealer and investment banking firm. "Right now we have the capital, and right now we're looking to expand. And I think that's what a lot of boutiques are looking to do, too."

AP

In this Oct. 2, 2008 file photo, a man walks to work on Wall St. Thursday, Oct. 2, 2008 in New York.

Escobio said in the past few months, one out of every four or five resumes comes from top Wall Street firms—compared with about one out of 100 in years past.

Former Wall Streeters also tend to bring clients with larger net worth—another potential long-term blow to firms trying to recover from the meltdown—so boutiques and middle market firms stand to reap the profits. In turn they deliver something that's currently elusive on Wall Street: stability. Jobs in the financial sector can pay anywhere from $100,000 to well into the seven-figure range depending on location, experience and the size of a firm, said Kimberly Bishop, vice chairman of Slayton Search partners, a Chicago-based headhunting firm.

"There's some talent available to some companies that wasn't available before," she said.

Wall Street workers who are thinking about relocating need to be flexible about income, Bishop said. Some junior Wall Street workers may be able to get more senior positions in smaller firms, getting comparable or better pay. But many more will make less while benefiting from a cheaper cost of living outside of New York City.

"They are going to make less, most of them," said Kurt Kraeger, the managing director of the New York Office of Robert Walters headhunting firm. "Even before this (economic downturn), the same type of positions overseas, let's say, did pay about 20 percent less than you would make here ... the people who go to smaller firms, often times the bonuses are smaller."

New York is the top paying state for personal financial advisers, with an average salary of $131,660, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor statistics. Colorado followed, paying an average of $119,590, then Massachusetts, with an average pay of $116,170, according to the 2007 occupational employment survey.

G-7 countries worried about the sharp rise of Japanese currency

WASHINGTON (AP)—The world's leading industrial countries are worried about the recent sharp rise in the value of the Japanese currency.

The financial ministers and central bank presidents of the Group of Seven major industrial countries issued a joint statement late Sunday in which they expressed their concern about the recent volatility of the yen.

The yen rose to a 13-year high against the dollar in trading Friday, raising concerns in Japan that it could harm its exports of cars and other products because they will now cost more in U.S. markets.

The statement by the G-7 finance officials was released in Washington, Tokyo and other G-7 capitals.

"We are concerned about the recent excessive volatility in the exchange rate of the yen and its possible adverse implications for economic and financial stability," the G-7 finance officials said.

The group reaffirmed its shared interest in a "strong and stable financial system" and pledged to continue to monitor markets and "cooperate as appropriate."

Such a pledge could indicate the possibility of joint intervention in currency markets where governments would sell and buy currencies in an effort to influence their values.

However, the Bush administration has never participated in such an intervention during its nearly eight years in office, preferring to allow the dollar's value against other currencies to be set by markets.

IMF vows support for Ukraine, Hungary

WASHINGTON (AP)—Seeking to combat a spreading global financial crisis, the International Monetary Fund said Sunday it had reached a tentative agreement to provide Ukraine with $16.5 billion in loans and announced that emergency assistance for Hungary had cleared a key hurdle.

The decisions were announced by IMF Managing Director Dominique Strauss-Kahn, who stressed that the 185-nation lending agency would act with speed to provide support for countries whose economies are being buffeted by the crisis.

Strauss-Kahn said the loan for Ukraine was designed to bolster confidence and noted that the assistance was sizable in relation to the country's borrowing rights with the IMF.

In a separate announcement, Strauss-Kahn said the IMF staff had reached broad agreement with Hungarian authorities on a reform package that the country will implement as a condition for getting its own emergency loans from the IMF. Agreement on reforms is a necessary first step in receiving IMF assistance.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

With wreckage piling up, Fed eyes another rate cut

WASHINGTON (AP)—As the economic wreckage piles dangerously higher, the Federal Reserve is prepared to ratchet down interest rates—perhaps to their lowest point in more than four years—with the hope of relieving some of the pain felt by many Americans. The convergence of a housing collapse and a lockup in lending has created the worst financial crisis in more than a half-century. Alan Greenspan, who ran the Fed for 18 1/2 years, called it a "once-in-a century credit tsunami," and conceded that he made mistakes that may have aggravated the economy's slump. With a recession seen as inevitable, if not already under way, any Fed rate cut would be aimed at cushioning the fallout. Vanishing jobs and shrinking paychecks have forced consumers to cut back sharply.

Financial crisis moves to Gulf Arab nations

KUWAIT CITY (AP)—Kuwait moved Sunday to prop up the country's second-largest commercial bank and scrambled to protect depositors at other domestic banks, dashing hopes the oil-rich Arab Gulf would emerge largely unscathed from the global financial crisis. The central bank halted trading in Gulf Bank shares because of high derivatives losses, just a day after Gulf finance ministers said the region's banks were insulated against the liquidity crisis that has rippled through the global banking industry. "The halting of Gulf Bank shares spread panic in the bourse today because the government has been saying banks are safe from (global financial crisis) losses," investor Ahmed al-Fadhli said a telephone interview. The Saudi stock exchange—the region's largest—fell by 8.7 percent Saturday and is down more than 50 percent since January.

Asia stock markets fall after last week's sell-off

HONG KONG (AP)—Asian stocks swung mostly lower in choppy trade Monday as investors braced for more volatility after last week's massive sell-off. Japanese shares, though, staged a moderate rebound as investors bought back battered ex ort-linked shares on the yen's retreat from a 13-year high. The benchmark Nikkei 225 stock average rose 30.42 points, or 0.4 percent, to 7,679.50. Elsewhere, Hong Kong's Hang Seng Index dropped 3.6 percent and Australia's key stock measure was trading about 1.7 percent lower. In South Korea, the Kospi skidded 1.8 percent even as the country's central bank slashed its key interest rate, by 0.75 percent, for the second time this month in a bid to boost the economy and reverse the market's recent slide. Investors were hesitant to wade back into equities, worried a stream of economic data from the U.S. this week could bring more bearish news and touch off another round of selling, analysts said.

Survey: Gas prices fall nearly 53 cents in 2 weeks

CAMARILLO, Calif. (AP)—A national survey shows gas prices continue to decline, tumbling nearly 53 cents a gallon in the last two weeks. The average price of a gallon of regular gasoline at self-serve stations was $2.78 Friday. Mid-grade was at $2.93 and premium was at $3.05. That's according to the Lundberg Survey of 5,000 gas stations nationwide, released Sunday. Gas was cheapest in Wichita, Kan., at $2.26 for a gallon of regular. It was most expensive in Anchorage, Alaska, at $3.50.

STOCK Portfolio

ASIAN MARKETS

AUSTRALIA	3,768.300 Down 63.300 (-1.65%)
HONG KONG	11,084.820 Down 1,533.56 (-12.15 %)
JAKARTA	1,158.239 Down 86.625 (-6.96%)
TOKYO	7,162.900 Down 486.18 (-6.36%)
K. LUMPUR	859.11 Down 32.21 (-3.61%)
MANILA	1,713.830 Down 239.66 (-12.27%)
SINGAPORE	1,600.280 Down 145.39 (-8.33%)
SEOUL	946.450 Up 7.7 (0.82%)
BANGKOK	402.73 Down 30.14 (-6.96%)

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	8,378.95 -312.30
NASDAQ	1,552.03 0.00
S&P	876.77 0.00

MONEY MARKET

Australian Dollar	1.6455
British Pound	0.6454
Canadian Dollar	1.2825
Chinese Renminbi	6.8493
Euro	0.8010
Hong Kong Dollar	7.7513
Indian Rupee	50.1300
Indonesian Rupiah	10,800.0000
Japanese Yen	103.6500
Malaysian Ringgit	92.9200
New Zealand Dollar	1.8351
Philippine Peso	49.3900
Singapore Dollar	1.5099
South Korean Won	1,453.0000
Swiss Franc	1.1642
Taiwan Dollar	33.4990
Thailand Baht	34.7700

In U.S. dollar terms

Source: Associated Press

Nation

Candidates spar with 9 days to go

AMERICA VOTES

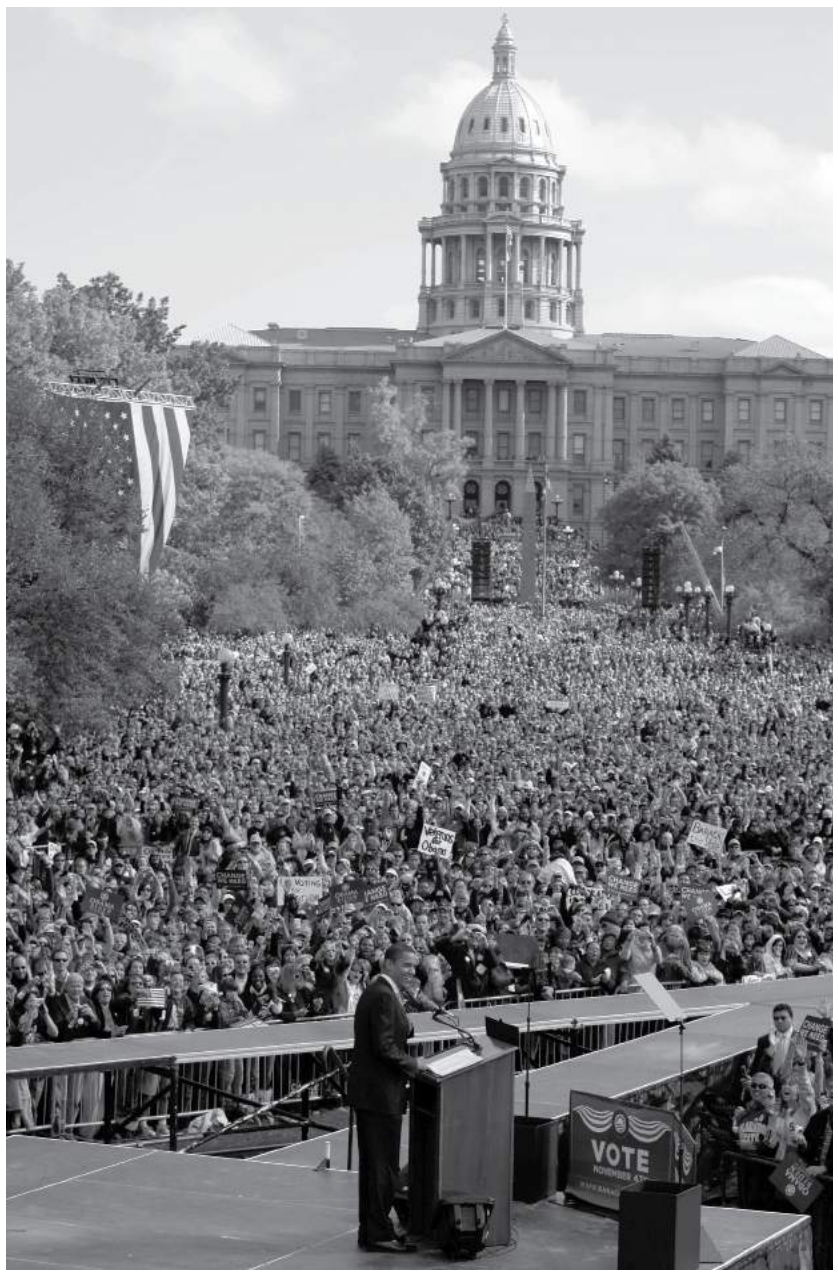
WASHINGTON (AP)—Republican John McCain declared "I'm going to win it," dismissing polls showing him behind with little more than a week to go in the presidential race. A confident Democrat Barack Obama drew a jaw-dropping 100,000 people to a single rally and rolled out a new TV ad asserting his rival is "running out of time."

Heading into the final nine days of the 2008 contest, the White House competitors campaigned in key battlegrounds that President Bush won four years ago as the state-by-state Electoral College map tilts strongly in Obama's favor. Democrats and Republicans alike say it will be extraordinarily difficult for McCain to change the trajectory of the campaign before the Nov. 4 election.

"Unfortunately, I think John McCain might be added to that long list of Arizonans who ran for president but were never elected," McCain's fellow senator from Arizona, Republican Jon Kyl, told the Arizona Daily Star editorial board in an interview published Sunday. Kyl told The Associated Press later Sunday that the Star article "totally misrepresented" his position.

The candidates sparred from a distance, each criticizing the other anew in hopes of swaying the roughly one-fourth of voters who are undecided or could still change their minds. The campaign trail images and rhetoric said perhaps more about the state of the race than any poll could.

In Colorado, Obama reveled in his largest U.S. crowd to date, with local police estimating that "well over" 100,000 people packed Denver's Civic Center Park and stretched even to the distant steps of the state Capitol. The enthusiastic sea of people prompted a "goodness gracious" from Obama as he took the stage. Another enormous swarm—an estimated 45,000 to 50,000—greeted him in Fort Collins later on the perhaps aptly named Colorado State University lawn; it's known as "The Oval."



AP

Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., speaks to a crowd estimated at over 100,000 people at a rally at Civic Center Park in Denver, Sunday, Oct. 26, 2008.

Alaska's largest newspaper endorses Barack Obama

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP)—The Anchorage Daily News, Alaska's largest newspaper, endorsed Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama Sunday after declaring Gov. Sarah Palin "too risky" to be one step away from the Oval Office.

"Like picking (Republican presidential candidate John) McCain for president, putting her one 72-year-old heartbeat from the leadership of the free world is just too risky at this time," The Daily News said.

The newspaper said Obama "brings far more promise to the office. In a time of grave economic crisis, he displays thoughtful analysis, enlists wise counsel and operates with a cool, steady hand."

The Daily News said since the economic crisis has emerged, McCain has "stumbled and fumbled badly" in dealing with it.

"Of the two candidates, Sen. Obama better understands the mortgage meltdown's root causes and has the judgment and intelligence to shape a solution, as well as the leadership to rally the country behind it," the paper said.

The Daily News said Palin has shown the country why she is a success as governor. But the paper said few would argue that Palin is truly ready to step into the job of being president despite her passion, charisma and strong work ethic.

"Gov. Palin's nomination clearly alters the landscape for Alaskans as we survey this race for the presidency - but it does not overwhelm all other judgment. The election, after all is said and done, is not about Sarah Palin, and our sober view is that her running mate, Sen. John McCain, is the wrong choice for president at this critical time for our nation," the paper said.

Growing Asian-American vote sheds its passive past

LORTON, Va. (AP)—For a long time, says Loc Pfeiffer, his fellow Asian-Americans were passive participants in American politics. But things are changing.

"Asians don't like confrontation or being adversarial, but that's politics," says Pfeiffer, a 41-year-old lawyer who was 6 when his parents brought him to America from Vietnam.

"The more we're raised and bred here, the less likely we are to be passive. So much of our culture, it's a very, very obedient culture. ... You don't argue with the government. You don't argue with Big Brother. There's the assumption that you give up all your individual rights for the whole. Which is astounding to me, because I'm American now."

An assertive Asian America matters, especially in places like Virginia and Nevada, swing states where Asians have been growing in numbers and influence.

With a booming population of highly educated, increasingly Americanized voters, this former "silent minority" is entering the most engaged and visible era of its political history.

The number of Asians in the United States has grown 25 percent in the last seven years, to 15 million, said Jane Junn, an associate professor of political science at Rutgers University. Educated people are more likely to vote, and 50 percent of the Asian population has a college degree, compared with 25 percent of the U.S. population, Junn said.

"There comes a point where there's a critical mass," said Junn, whose parents were born in Korea. "When you're only one person out of 100, you're very self-conscious about (becoming politically active). But there is power in numbers."

States find a can of worms in bottle deposit laws

LANSING, Mich. (AP)—"Seinfeld" characters Kramer and Newman once tried driving a mail truck full of empty cans and bottles to Michigan to profit from the state's dime deposit law.

But illegal returns are a real-life phenomenon and are no laughing matter in 11 states that encourage recycling by adding a refundable deposit to beer, soft drink and other beverage containers.

Michigan would have at least $10 million a year more for environmental cleanup if not for people redeeming containers that were bought in other states. California could be spending more on recycling programs and a conservation corps for at-risk young adults.

"Smugglers are bleeding our taxpayers one can and one bottle at a time," said Michigan Rep. Steven Bieda, who's sponsoring state legislation to clamp down on illegal returns.

Michigan is the only state with a dime deposit on all carbonated beverage containers - other states have a nickel deposit on most cans - so people buy drinks in Indiana, Ohio and Wisconsin and redeem the containers in Michigan.

ACROSS THE NATION

Tributes pour in after Arkansas TV anchor's death

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP)—Flowers and candles piled up Sunday outside the home where a TV anchorwoman was found brutally beaten, as tributes poured into the Web site of the Little Rock station where her colleagues mourned her death. Anne Pressly, a 26-year-old anchor for KATV, died Saturday night in a hospital. Her mother found her brutally beaten Monday after the journalist didn't answer her regular wake-up call. Authorities have said they have no suspects. Hundreds of comments flooded the station's Web site from across the United States, including messages from loyal viewers accustomed to seeing Pressly on TV to those who said they'd never heard of her before the attack. "Although I didn't know her or ever see her on the news I was very touched when I read the first article about her brutal beating. I do hope the person who did this is caught and punished to the full extent," a Connecticut woman wrote. Frequent viewers of the ABC affiliate's "Daybreak" program recounted how Pressly had affected their lives.

Calif. gay marriage ban becomes big money race

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—At least 64,000 people from all 50 states and more than 20 other countries have given money to support or oppose a ban on same-sex marriage in California, reflecting broad interest in a race that some consider second in national importance only to the presidential election. Ten days before the vote on Proposition 8, campaign finance records show that total contributions for and against the measure have surpassed $60 million, according to an analysis by The Associated Press. That would be a record nationally for a ballot initiative based on a social rather than economic issue, campaign finance experts say. It also eclipses the combined total of $33 million spent in the 24 states where similar measures have been put to voters since 2004. If approved by California voters, Proposition 8 would overturn a state Supreme Court ruling that legalized same-sex marriages by changing the state constitution to limit marriage to a man and a woman.

Hospitals ease ER crowding with ward beds in halls

CHICAGO (AP)—There's no phone and no television. Only a screen offers privacy. But heart patient Edward Gray understands why the hospital put him in a cardiac unit hallway. "They sent me up here to make room for other emergency patients," Gray, 78, said last week from his bed in the hall of a New York area hospital. "This is the way things are in hospitals." It may not sound like ideal health care, but hospital officials nationwide are being urged to consider hallway medicine as a way to ease emergency department crowding, and some are trying it. Leading the way is Stony Brook University Medical Center at Stony Brook, N.Y., where a study found that no harm was caused by moving emergency room patients to upper-floor hallways when they were ready for admission. The study's lead author says all hospitals should look at the program's success. "This is yet another battle cry for hospitals to get off their duffs and stop stacking people knee deep in the emergency department," said Dr. Peter Viccellio, who is clinical director of the hospital's emergency department.

Asia

Suspected US strike kills up to 20 in Pakistan

DERA ISMAIL KHAN, Pakistan (AP)—A suspected U.S. missile strike on the house of a Taliban commander near the Afghan border killed up to 20 people on Monday, Pakistani intelligence officials said.

Missile strikes into Pakistan's border region have escalated sharply in recent months, as American commanders have complained that Pakistani forces are not putting enough pressure on militants in strongholds on their territory.

Monday's reported strike occurred in the South Waziristan region, part of Pakistan's wild border zone that is considered a possible hiding place for Osama bin Laden and al-Qaida No. 2 Ayman al-Zawahri.

Two intelligence officials, speaking on condition of anonymity because they are not authorized to talk to the media, said the targeted house in Mandata Raghzai village belonged to a lieutenant of local Taliban chief Maulvi Nazir.

The officials, citing reports from agents and informers in the area, said militants cordoned off the scene and the identity of the victims was not immediately clear.

U.S. military and CIA drones that patrol the frontier region are believed to have carried out at least a dozen missile strikes since August. The United States rarely confirms or denies involvement in the attacks.

Pakistani leaders have protested the strikes as an unacceptable violation of the country's sovereignty and argue that the attacks only fuel Islamic extremism in the region.

Separately, Taliban fighters who tried unsuccessfully to kidnap a tribal militia leader beheaded one of the man's rescuers in front of a crowd, then fought a running battle with tribesmen on Sunday that left as many as 30 people dead, police said.

The assailants grabbed militia chief Pir Samiullah at his home in the Swat region and were hustling him to a getaway car when dozens of local tribesmen confronted them and snatched him back, regional police chief Dilawar Bangash said.

Bangash said hundreds of Taliban later returned, seized three members of the militia and beheaded one of them on a road before a large crowd.

The militias, known as lashkars, have been compared to the so-called awakening councils that have helped U.S. forces turn the tables against al-Qaida in Iraq. Pakistan's government has cited them as proof it can root out militants waging an insurgency in both Pakistan and Afghanistan.

At the beheading, Taliban commander Mullah Shamsher told onlookers "this was a lesson for anyone who tried to oppose them," Bangash said, citing witnesses. The militia gathered men from the surrounding area who engaged the Taliban in an hours-long gunbattle.

World Bank, France lend China $900M for rebuilding

BEIJING (AP)—The World Bank and France have agreed to lend China more than $900 million to rebuild areas devastated by a massive earthquake earlier this year, state media reported Sunday.

The official Xinhua News Agency said the World Bank will provide a loan of $710 million to China - $510 million of which will be allocated to southwestern Sichuan province, hardest hit by the May 12 quake that left nearly 90,000 people dead or missing.

The rest will go to neighboring Gansu province, Xinhua said, citing Ede Ijjasz, a World Bank manager for China and Mongolia. Xinhua said the loans still need board approval by the international lending institution in December.

The money will be used for the construction of roads, bridges, water pipelines, hospitals and child care facilities, the report said.

The French Development Agency, meanwhile, will lend China $200 million for reconstruction of urban infrastructure and rural houses in the quake zone, Xinhua said.

Last month, Chinese media reported that the government has raised about a quarter of the nearly $250 billion it needs to rebuild after the earthquake, which destroyed roads, knocked down buildings, left thousands of schools in piles of rubble and destroyed the homes of millions of people.

ASIAN BRIEFS

2 Koreas hold military talks amid tension

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—Working-level military officers from North Korea and South Korea met Monday to discuss improving their lines of communication amid strained ties between the divided nations, officials said. It would be the second official talks between the rival Koreas since a pro-U.S., conservative government was inaugurated in Seoul in February with a pledge to get tougher on the North. The first meeting also was held between the countries' military officers in early October but ended without much progress. The North used the meeting to criticize South Korean civic activists for sending propaganda leaflets critical of its communist regime across the Korean border, threatening to expel South Koreans working at joint projects in the North in retaliation. On Monday, the sides met in a location inside the demilitarized zone bisecting the Korean peninsula, said Won Tae-jae, a spokesman at the South Korean Defense Ministry, during a media briefing. He did not provide details, saying he would brief the results of the meeting later in the day.

Attackers gouge out Afghan man's eyes

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan (AP)—Armed assailants attacked a man and gouged out his eyes in front of his family during a gruesome assault in southern Afghanistan, officials said Sunday. Sayed Ghulam, 52, was recovering in a hospital in the country's largest southern city, Kandahar. Ghulam said three armed men knocked on his door in the Sangin district of Helmand province late Thursday. When he opened the door, they punched him in the face, put the barrel of a Kalashnikov rifle in his mouth and gouged out his eyes with a knife in the presence of his wife and seven children. "I was crying, along with my children and wife, who was screaming for help, but they didn't listen," Ghulam told The Associated Press from his hospital room in Kandahar. Ghulam, a farmer who said he raises wheat and popcorn, said he doesn't know why he was attacked. "I don't have any enemies. But they were not letting me talk. They put the AK-47 in my mouth and they were punching me."

RP communist rebels free 7 comrades from jail disguised as government agents

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Communist guerrillas, disguised as anti-narcotics agents, barged into a poorly guarded provincial prison southeast of Manila and freed seven of their comrades in a daring 15-minute attack staged without firing a shot, officials said Sunday. The 30 New People's Army guerrillas, most armed with machine guns, talked their way into the prison in Quezon province late Saturday, saying they were there to take custody of some of the inmates, and then overwhelmed the guards on duty. The rebels then fled in four vans with the freed prisoners. They later clashed with police at a checkpoint, wounding two policemen and two civilians, Quezon police Chief Fidel Posadas said.

World

Iranian president suffering from exhaustion

TEHRAN, Iran (AP)—President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said Sunday he is suffering from exhaustion and two allies said he was suffering under the strain of his job, in a rare disclosure apparently designed to combat rumors the hardline leader is more seriously ill.

A parliament member who confirmed Ahmadinejad's illness accused opponents of using it as an excuse to cast doubt on whether the increasingly unpopular president will run for a second term next year.

"Those who use such a natural issue for psychological warfare will fail" to gain support in public opinion, said Parliament member Mohammad Ismail Kowsari. Since the 1979 Islamic revolution, every Iranian president has been re-elected to a second term, except the first one, Abolhasan Banisadr, who fled the country in 1981.

AP

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, center, helped by his bodyguards during a religious ceremony marks the death of the Shiite Saint Jaafar Sadeq in Tehran on Saturday Oct, 25, 2008.

The months ahead are critical for Ahmadinejad if he wants to try to rebuild his political base and rebut critics who point to his unfulfilled campaign promises, including his pledge to extend Iran's oil revenues to poorer provinces around the country.

With more than 10 percent unemployment and 30 percent inflation, Iran was unable to bask in record-high oil prices earlier this year.

US special forces launch rare attack inside Syria

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP)—U.S. military helicopters launched an extremely rare attack Sunday on Syrian territory close to the border with Iraq, killing eight people in a strike the government in Damascus condemned as "serious aggression."

A U.S. military official said the raid by special forces targeted the network of al-Qaida-linked foreign fighters moving through Syria into Iraq. The Americans have been unable to shut the network down in the area struck because Syria was out of the military's reach.

"We are taking matters into our own hands," the official told The Associated Press in Washington, speaking on condition of anonymity because of the political sensitivity of cross-border raids.

The attack came just days after the commander of U.S. forces in western Iraq said American troops were redoubling efforts to secure the Syrian border, which he called an "uncontrolled" gateway for fighters entering Iraq.

A Syrian government statement said the helicopters attacked the Sukkariyeh Farm near the town of Abu Kamal, five miles inside the Syrian border. Four helicopters attacked a civilian building under construction shortly before sundown and fired on workers inside, the statement said.

The government said civilians were among the dead, including four children.

WORLD BRIEFS

Rebels seize east Congo army camp, thousands flee

KIBUMBA, Congo (AP)—Rebels seized an east Congo army base and the headquarters of a refuge for some of the world's last mountain gorillas in heavy fighting Sunday that sent thousands of civilians fleeing, U.N. officials and rebels said. An unknown number of soldiers, rebels and civilians were killed in the renewed fighting in North Kivu province, according to civilians. Government troops raced down the road north from the provincial capital of Goma to reinforce a counterattack Sunday morning. One tank careened into a group of fleeing civilians and killed three teenage boys, civilians said. Associated Press reporters who watched the fathers burying their sons in a cabbage patch outside Kibumba could hear bombing from army tanks about 12 miles from Rumangabo army camp, seized in the attack.

Brazil ruling party loses Sao Paulo mayoral race

SAO PAULO, Brazil (AP)—Brazil's ruling party lost its chance to retake control of South America's biggest city on Sunday, while an ex-guerrilla who once kidnapped a U.S. ambassador failed in his bid to become mayor of Rio de Janeiro. Incumbent Sao Paulo Mayor Gilberto Kassab of the conservative Democrat Party easily won re-election in a second round of voting, beating Marta Suplicy of the Workers Party by 21 percentage points. Suplicy, a former Sao Paulo mayor and a former tourism minister, lost the key race despite the outspoken support of popular President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva. "Now it's up to the people of Sao Paulo to make sure the new mayor will keep his campaign promises," Suplicy said. Suplicy's defeat gives Silva's Workers Party an added challenge to get his successor elected in the 2010 presidential race, as mayors are seen as powerful vote gatherers in general elections.

Colombian hostage escapes with rebel jailer

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP)—A 62-year-old lawmaker held captive eight years by leftist rebels walked to freedom in a western Colombia jungle on Sunday along with the young guerrilla commander who had been his jailer. President Alvaro Uribe said the rebel and his girlfriend would be rewarded with asylum in France. Oscar Tulio Lizcano is the first Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia hostage to gain freedom since the July 2 rescue of former presidential candidate Ingrid Betancourt and three U.S. military contractors. His escape is yet another blow to Latin America's last major rebel army, which is battling record desertions under withering pressure from Colombia's U.S.-backed military. The white-bearded Lizcano encountered a military road checkpoint three days after escaping with the leader of the unit that held him. He looked haggard in a grimy black shirt and muddy training pants during Sunday's news conference at a military base in the western city of Cali. He apologized for his somewhat incoherent speech, saying his captors had forbidden him to speak. He thanked "the person who had the courage, the valor to leave with me."

Overdrive

Nissan Maxima is a good mixima

By DAN NEIL
(C) 2008, LOS ANGELES TIMES

According to our friends at Kelley Blue Book Marketing Research, you can tell which presidential candidate a person supports by looking at what kind of car they drive. Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., has the support of 66 percent of full-size pickup truck drivers; not surprisingly, perhaps, hybrid drivers are more inclined toward Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill.

Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin scores very high with drivers of Zambonis. Supporters of Sen. Joe Biden, D-Del., take the train, back and forth, from Washington to Delaware for 35 years.

As for brands, KBB reports Obama leading McCain among owners of nichy import vehicles, including Mini (70 percent), Subaru (61 percent) and Saab (59 percent). Does that mean 41 percent of Saab owners support McCain? Not necessarily. Remember there are several credible independent candidates, including Rep. Ron Paul, R-Texas; Ralph Nader, Bob Barr and Sha'alweed from the planet Niiik6.

Does the Nissan Maxima still have a constituency?

LOS ANGELES TIMES

Nissan's Maxima, long the underdog, has power and cush to spare in its 2009 incarnation.

LOS ANGELES TIMES

The Nissan Maxima has had a makeover for 2009. The big changes include a V6 with more horses under the hood and a re-educated transmission. It's trying hard to be liked.

In the early 1990s, this was the cool Nissan to have—a tightly drafted, reasonably racy Japanese sedan noted for its affordable fun and can't-kill-it durability. Tuners and slammers loved it. Nissan called it their 4DSC, which stood for "four-door sports car" (though I always thought that was eight-door hyperbole).

In recent years, if the Maxima were a political party, it could have held its rallies in a porta-potty. The once-sporty midsizer had been rendered all but irrelevant by the slightly smaller, swifter and cheaper Nissan Altima, built from the same greasy bits and using the same 3.5-liter V6. Yet the bigger problem for Nissan's top-shelf sedan, it seems to me, was its loss of identity. The numb-handed corporate styling, the perfunctory interiors, the middling performance.

For 2009, the Maxima has gotten a candidate makeover—for much less than $150,000. The big changes include a 290-horsepower version of Nissan/Infiniti's VQ-series V6 (a 35-hp bump over the 2008 model), which gushes power through a continuously variable transmission and out the front wheels in a deluge of exuberant torque steer.

This is a car that is trying really hard to be liked, a little like Hillary. Eager, aggressive, hypercompetent, the new Maxima doesn't so much sit on the fence as carom through it. It's a four-wheel pantsuit.

The CVT transmission has been re-educated for sporty driving—it will now hold high revs under hard acceleration—and the 19-inch sport tires (part of the optional performance package) sink their fangs into the asphalt from takeoff. It's a buzzy cavort to 60 mph (under 7 seconds), and I estimate the quarter-mile time is probably in the mid-14-second range.

LOS ANGELES TIMES

The new 2009 Nissan Maxima has scads of fancy electronics at the driver's fingertips, including a navigation system.

There's a bit of a whine here. I'll leave it to you to say which candidate that's like.

To further establish the Maxima as a bona-fide sports sedan, Nissan has shortened the wheelbase and widened the track to make it marginally more nimble and flatter in cornering. There are, apparently, lighter aluminum suspension pieces underneath, buttoned to a stiffer chassis, and the engine lump is situated lower.

The CVT is also equipped with paddle shifters behind the steering wheel, which causes the transmission to mimic the fixed gear ratios of a standard six-speed.

The results of all the sportifying are mixed. Indeed, you could call it Mixima. The car has serious and significant road-holding ability in corners, big lateral grip.

However, first you have to get it in the corners, and that means using the steering wheel, which is full of twitches and uncertainty. The steering ratio is quick—when you turn the wheel a little, the car turns a lot—but the low-friction steering doesn't feel connected and secure, nor does it want to center itself. At moderate highway speeds, the Maxima requires a lot of tiller tending.

Out in the esses, the Maxima has a toothy bite in the corners. But as speeds increase, the turn-in washes away and you're left with a fairly conventional front-drive sedan operating at above-par speeds. Body roll is damped but far from banished. Off-the-corner push (understeer) is simply part of the bargain. Making a high-horsepower, front-drive, nose-heavy car corner well is harder than gay marriage in Utah.

So why isn't this a rear-drive car? Which is to say, why isn't this an Infiniti?

The Maxima's new styling—with its distinct bevel edge from headlight to taillight, swelling to encompass muscular fender flares—is reminiscent of Nissan's luxury division. The deep reserves of cush, the quiet ride and sound insulation, are worthy of the Infiniti.

The interior, from the lux leather to the scads of high-grade electronics, including rear-view camera, Bluetooth and navigation, are right out of Infiniti's campaign headquarters. The price—upward of $37,000 in full boat trim—is certainly in the Infiniti ZIP Code.

Personally, I think the Maxima is a victim of over-busy, overlapping product planning. Why would you vote for the Maxima when you can pull the lever for a similarly priced Infiniti G35, which puts its 300-plus horsepower to the rear wheels?

Now that's a party.

CRUISIN'

GTO dreams

By GREG ZYLA
(C) 2008 KING FEATURES SYND., INC.

Q: Greg, please tell us about the legend of the Pontiac GTO. I owned one in my heyday.—Glenn, New Port Richey, Fla.

A: Glenn, I'd be happy to. The 1964 GTO was the brainchild of the late John DeLorean and his staff engineers, Bill Collins and Russ Gee. As Jim Wangers explains in his book "Glory Days," the trio decided to put a 389 engine in a Pontiac Tempest instead of the tame 326 incher. It was an easy transition, as the engine mounts were the same.

The big hurdle was to get it approved for production, since General Motors had a policy of 10 pounds of vehicle weight per cubic inch maximum. Since the Lemans weighed about 3,500 pounds, the biggest engine allowable would have been a 350 incher. But since the GM approval committee only got involved with new models, they would release the 389 V-8 and GTO as options. (Wangers tells even more secrets in his book, available in bookstores, www.geetotiger.com or by calling 877-588-4687.)

The GTO option RPO382 was an add-on to the base Tempest LeMans, featuring a 389-inch V-8, Hurst three-speed manual, dual exhaust, heavy duty clutch, tweaked suspension and special tires, all for only $295.90 more. The 389 engine came with 325 horsepower with a single 4-barrel (standard) or a 348-horse option with three 2-barrel carbs for $92. Add the four-speed gearbox for $188 and a driving package that included limited-slip differential, metallic brake linings and a heavy-duty radiator for $75, and you were ready to cruise the boulevard or quarter-mile.

Pontiac hoped to sell 5,000 GTOs in 1964, yet ended up selling a whopping 32,450. More than half a million GTOs were produced during its initial 11 model-year run.

Write to Greg Zyla in care of King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475, or send e-mail to gzyla@ptd.net.

Life & Style

Halloween comes early for Red Cross party

T'was six days before Halloween and all through the Hyatt grounds, superheroes, zombies, and witches were out in full force.

It was the American Red Cross NMI Chapter's 20th Annual Club 200 fundraiser Saturday night, and the Halloween theme inspired a cavalcade of characters straight out of comic books, fantasy, horror, and even real-life politicians, who went to the Hyatt Regency Saipan for a night of fun and charity.

An estimated 1,200 people were in attendance at the event. Here are some pictures from the event:

PTI supports the Annual Red Cross Club 200 Fundraising Dinner by donating close to $4,000 in cash and high-end wireless products. Shown in the picture is Ed Manglona, PTI Marketing Coordinator and Viola Sablan, CNMI Red Cross board of director.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

KSPN reporters Janet Ahn and Lannie Walker were in attendance at the Red Cross' 20th annual Club 200 fundraiser.

KRISTI EATON

Partygoes, dressed in Halloween costumes, hit the dance floor.

KRISTI EATON

Michelle and Barack Obama received loud applause when they entered the couples' costume contest.

KRISTI EATON

Kimiko Hasegawa and Autumn Beechler smile for the camera.

KRISTI EATON

Guests enter the party through this spooky entrance.

KRISTI EATON

Couples take part in a costume contest.

KRISTI EATON

Red Cross executive director John Hirsh presents Bo Palacios of Joeten with a plague recognizing the company's support for the Red Cross.

KRISTI EATON

Men and women also had their own category to enter for best costume.

KRISTI EATON

Pacific Islands Club employees perform to Michael Jackson's "Thriller."

KRISTI EATON

Safety also applies to trick-or-treating

By LINDSAY MINNEMA
(C) 2008, THE WASHINGTON POST

Ghosts and goblins aren't the only scary things you and your children should be wary of on Halloween night.

Ghosts and goblins aren't the only scary things you and your children should be wary of on Halloween night—just three days away. Burning Jack-o-lanterns and nighttime trick-or-treating pose increased risks for burns, falls and other injuries. Here are tips from the American Red Cross that will help you keep accidents from ruining the fun:

■ Stick to sidewalks where possible, and look both ways before crossing the street.

■ Wear light-colored or reflective clothing to be visible to drivers in the dark—or at least put some reflective tape on that black witch costume!

■ Plan a route and share it with your family. Children and adults should stick together.

■ Carry a flashlight to illuminate the way.

■ Use face paint rather than masks that can cover your eyes.

■ Buy costumes made from flame-retardant materials, and keep clear of open flames.

■ Only visit homes that have the porch light on. Don't enter a stranger's home, but insist on accepting your treats at the door.

■ Parents, inspect your kids' candy and discard any that are already open.

THE BEST TREATS

By STACEY GARFINKLE
(C) 2008, WASHINGTONPOST.COM

WASHINGTON—I'm not a huge fan of Halloween excess. My boss still thinks of me as the Cruella who brings the bulk of the Halloween loot into the office rather than letting the kids nosh on it for weeks and weeks. But now that the kids are used to choosing their favorite pieces to keep and giving the rest away, there's no going back.

Every year, it's fun to see what makes the cut as the best Halloween loot.

Here's my list, based on several years of dumping and sorting with the boys:

5 Tattoos/ Stickers

Given the sugar high of the night, it's always nice to have a few non-candy items in the pumpkin. And what kid doesn't like a scary spider crawling up his or her arm or a cute little pumpkin?

4 Lollipops

Want to make sure you don't eat the candy stash before Halloween night? Or are you worried about having leftovers? Then, this is the treat to hand out. Kids like them and most adults won't touch them—at least if my office is any indication. One year, those suckers sat for a month or more in the candy jar while everything else got devoured within a week.

3 Hershey's miniatures

So long as chocolate's a main ingredient, that candy's worth it. And it's a sure bet with all the different types that every member of the Halloween house-hopping crew will find one to suit his taste buds.

2 Reese's Peanut Butter of any kind

Chocolate, peanut butter, addictive ... need I say more?

1 Eyeballs

Some are marshmallows, some ooze, some are chocolate. Whatever the stuff on the inside, the coolness factor of eating an eyeball puts these in the kids' "keep" pile every year.

Halloween hobgoblins don't spook retailers

By ANDREA CHANG
(C) 2008, LOS ANGELES TIMES

Finally, some not-so-spooky news for retailers: With Halloween on a Friday, many consumers are putting aside recession worries and snapping up Batman Joker masks, Sarah Palin glasses and Hannah Montana wigs.

The gloomy reality—a weak economy, plunging stock market and persistent credit crunch—had retailers worried that consumers would remain tight with their spending for Halloween. But with a week to go, many stores said they were out of stock on popular items and extending hours to accommodate crowds of shoppers.

Halloween, a relatively inexpensive holiday to celebrate, has been growing in popularity and consumer spending in recent years, said Britt Beemer, chairman of consumer behavior firm America's Research Group.

According to the National Retail Federation, more people are expected to participate in Halloween festivities this year, with the average person spending $66.54, up from $64.82 a year ago.

"Though the economy is struggling, Halloween sales may be a bright spot for retailers this fall," said Tracy Mullin, chief executive of the retail trade group. "Consumers, who have been anxious and uncertain for the past several months, may be looking at Halloween as an opportunity to forget the stresses of daily life and just have a little fun."

Halloween is expected to be widely celebrated this year because it falls on a Friday, which will extend the holiday through the weekend. That timing provided some relief to retailers, who said they were seeing customers—especially women—buy more than one costume to avoid wearing the same outfit two nights in a row.

Tony Detzi, vice president of Spirit Halloween, said because of the economy he "wouldn't classify this as a great Halloween, but it's a good Halloween for us." The chain, which increased from 548 to 628 superstores in the U.S. and Canada this year, would probably see small same-store sales gains over last year, he said.

Halloween heads are going to roll

By MONICA HESSE
(C) 2008, THE WASHINGTON POST

Tired of reading the same predictable Halloween stories every year? Us, too! That's why we bring you Faux Halloween Headlines for 2008:

"'It Was Like the Running of the Moose': Chaos Breaks Out Over Sarah Palin Wigs, Glasses"

"Eco-Friendly, Carbon-Neutral, Fructose-Free Organic Treats the Whole Family Can Enjoy! Or Pretend To!"

"Parents Find Deadly 401(k) Statements Hidden Inside Chocolate Bars. 'Gavin Just Looked at It and Got Sick,' Says Horrified Mom"

"Slutty Cheerleader Costumes Now Made for Infants, Toddlers"

"Turn Your Foreclosed House Into a Haunted One in 7 Easy Steps"

"4-Year-Old Expelled for Wielding Foam Samurai Sword. 'I Don't See Why a Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle Can't Carry a Safety Whistle Instead,' Principal Says"

"Tina Fey Going as Joe Biden for Halloween"

IN LOVING MEMORY

MANUEL ADA MANGLONA
Called to his eternal rest
on October 23, 2008 at the age of 86.

HE WILL LIVE FOREVER IN THE HEARTS OF:

Children, Spouses, & Family:

PILAR M. & PEDRO R. DELEON GUERRERO
Peter M. Deleon Guerrero Jr. (Nicole, Shane, Niomi, Naleina)
Arlene DLG & John Carbullido (Natasha, Justin)
Glenn M. Deleon Guerrero & Dolly Jean Tkel (Latrel, Sohayla, Aisha)
John M. Deleon Guerrero
Reared Grandson: Audy M. Fleming & April Atalig (Pedro, Aubrey, Rico)

REGINA M. & HENRY O. SABLAN
Grace S. & David Simmons (Austin, Waylon, Jacob)
Joan S. & Bobby Wedgworth (Clayton, Craig)
Jerome M. Sablan & Kelly Sablan
Henry M. Sablan Jr. & Christine Arriola (Will Je)
Risong S. Betancourt (Lea)
Sharon M. Sablan & Dane Lizama (Dion, Daesha)
Sherla M. Sablan & Domingo Hocog

JAMES M. MANGLONA & JOYCE REINHART
James F. Manglona Jr. & Tanya Manglona (Josh, Aliyah, Alexis)
Kara M. Powell & J.D. Powell (Nailani, Naiomi)
William R. Manglona (Christopher)

THOMAS M. MANGLONA & LYDIA B. GAPAS
Destiny Lynn A. Manglona
Tommy James A. Manglona (Eleina)
Kaesha Tishae A. Manglona
Julius Vance G. Manglona
Christopher Gapas

Brothers, Sisters, In-Laws:
Rita M. Babauta (+Vicente S.N. Babauta)
Herman A. Manglona & Soledad S. Manglona
Dionicio A. Manglona (+Ana G. Manglona)
Martin A. Manglona & Florence M. Manglona
Agnes M. McPhetres
Beata D. Mendiola
Emilia C. Manglona
Chong L. Manglona

AND IN CELEBRATION OF HIS NEW LIFE, HE NOW JOINS:

Parents:
JOSE MENDIOLA & ANA ADA MANGLONA (PONAPE)

Spouses & Children:
Teresa D. Manglona (Joaquin D. Manglona, Jose D. Manglona)
Juana M. Manglona (Rosina M. Manglona)
Luise S. Manglona

Parents In-Law:
Joaquin Flores & Juana Hocog Duenas
Jose Gogue & Purification Atalig Manglona
Enrique DLG & Martha Barcinas Sablan

Brothers, Sisters, & Spouses:
Crispin A. & Consolacion H. Manglona-Maratita
Carmen M. & Vicente A. Sablan
Jose A. & Concepcion T. Manglona
Victorina M. & Manuel S.N. Pangelinan
Ana G. Manglona

Brothers & Sisters In-Law:
David A. & Ana A. Manglona
Maria M. & Andres C. Atalig
Ignacio A. Manglona
Pedro A. & Rosa A. Manglona
Juan A. Manglona
Francisco A. Manglona
Guadalupe M. & Francisco M. Taisacan
Estanislao A. Manglona

He is additionally survived by numerous nephews, nieces, relatives and friends.

Holy Rosary is being said nightly at 7:00 p.m. At Kristo Rai Church in Garapan. On Friday, October 31, 2008, his remains will be escorted from the CHC Chapel at 7:30 a.m. to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Cathedral. Responso Service will be at 8:00 a.m., and Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m. Interment Service will follow at Chalan Kanoa Catholic Cemetery.

Hudson offers $100,000 reward for missing nephew

CHICAGO (AP)—Jennifer Hudson and her family offered a $100,000 reward Sunday for the safe return of her missing nephew, as investigators looked for forensic evidence near the home where her mother and brother were found shot to death.

Mourners dressed in their Sunday best milled outside the childhood home of the singer and Oscar-winning actress, along with investigators seeking clues to the whereabouts of 7-year-old Julian King, the son of Jennifer Hudson's sister, Julia. In a statement Sunday evening from publicist Lisa Kasteler, Jennifer Hudson appealed to the public for its help, offering the reward and asking that any information be given to Chicago police.

"Jennifer and her family appreciate the enormous amount of love, support and prayers they have received while she and her family try to cope with this tragedy and continue the search for Julian," the statement said.

Chicago police ramped up search efforts for Julian around the Englewood neighborhood, where Hudson grew up, and transferred custody of a "person of interest" in the killings to state authorities.

An Amber Alert remained in effect Sunday for Julian, who disappeared Friday, the day the bodies of his grandmother, Darnell Donerson, 57, and 29-year-old uncle Jason Hudson were found in the home they shared on the city's South Side. The deaths were ruled homicides.

The Amber Alert listed William Balfour, the estranged husband of Julia Hudson, as a suspect in a "double homicide investigation."

Police said they did not have a motive for the killings but called the case "domestic related." Bond said Balfour had not been charged.

"Detectives are working 24 hours on this case," said Chicago police spokeswoman Monique Bond. "There's a lot of forensic evidence. We have to work the evidence and try and solve this case. Most importantly, we want to find the child."

Authorities said the search for Julian would be citywide, but on Sunday residents and officers focused their efforts "in the immediate vicinity" of the home, said police spokesman Dan O'Brien.

Bond said no weapon had been found at the Hudson home, a three-story house sandwiched by vacant lots littered with trash.

AP

Jeremy Walker, right, and Bobby Moore pray at a makeshift memorial outside the home belonging to the family of Oscar-winning actress Jennifer Hudson where two people were found dead in Chicago, Saturday, Oct. 25, 2008.

Investigators on Sunday moved in and out of the home and examined the trash.

Mourners stopped by the Hudson home, many laying teddy bears along the chain link fence around the property. Others signed a cross that rested on the fence.

"We love you," one message read. Another said, "We'll find the people who did this."

Police officers were instructed to place fliers with Julian King's picture and description in every business in the area.

Jennifer Hudson, who won an Academy Award for best supporting actress in 2007 for her role in "Dreamgirls," was in Chicago with her family during the weekend, her sister said. Her publicist did not disclose her whereabouts, but the Cook County medical examiner's office confirmed she had identified the bodies of her mother and brother.

Bond said Balfour, who had been in police custody since Friday, was transferred Sunday to the Illinois Department of Corrections "based on his active parole violation unrelated to this investigation."

Records from the Corrections Department show Balfour, 27, is on parole and spent nearly seven years in prison for attempted murder, vehicular hijacking and possessing a stolen vehicle.

Corrections spokeswoman Januari Smith said Balfour would probably remain in state custody until the Illinois Prisoner Review Board looked at his case. She would not say where Balfour was being held.

It was unclear whether Balfour had an attorney Sunday, but his mother, Michele Balfour, has denied he was involved the killings or in Julian's disappearance.

In a MySpace blog entry on Sunday, Jennifer Hudson said she was grateful for community support and posted a picture of her sister's son.

"Thank you all for your prayers and your calls," she wrote. "Please keep praying for our family and that we get Julian King back home safely."

'High School Musical' commences at No. 1 with $42M

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The crazed killer Jigsaw has been done in by a bunch of singing and dancing teens.

Disney's "High School Musical 3: Senior Year" hoofed its way to the top of the weekend box office class with $42 million, while Lionsgate's horror sequel "Saw V" had to settle for second place with $30.5 million, according to studio estimates Sunday.

A big-screen sequel to the Disney Channel TV movies, "High School Musical 3" had a record opening for a song-and-dance flick, easily beating the previous best of $27.8 million, set over the summer by "Mamma Mia!"

"High School Musical 3" and "Saw V" combined to send Hollywood revenues soaring. The top 12 movies took in $120.5 million, up 41 percent from the same weekend last year, when "Saw IV" led the weekend with a $31.8 million debut.

"It was good vs. evil at the box office, and both won," said Paul Dergarabedian, president of box office tracker Media By Numbers. "That combination of a G-rated and an R-rated movie, both chasing completely different audiences, proved to be a huge success."

"Saw V" pulled in about the same amount of cash over opening weekend as the last three flicks in the franchise about the diabolical Jigsaw, but it was the first that failed to finish at No. 1 since the original "Saw" debuted in third place in 2004.

The horror crowd was simply outnumbered by young fans and their parents turning up to see how senior year played out for the "High School Musical" cast - led by Zac Efron, Vanessa Hudgens, Ashley Tisdale, Lucas Grabeel and Corbin Bleu.

Mark Zoradi, president of Disney's motion-picture group, said the continuing story of lovebirds Troy and Gabriella played largely to the TV audience of young girls, though the big-screen version also broadened the "High School Musical" fan base.

"There's no question there's a female skew to it and a family skew to it," Zoradi said. "The movie is working not only to that core preteen audience, but also aging up a little bit and also bringing in some boys."

"High School Musical 3" also pulled in $40 million in 19 other countries where it has opened, among them Britain, Germany and Spain.

The weekend's other new wide release, the Warner Bros. police saga "Pride and Glory," opened weakly with $6.3 million to come in at No. 5. "Pride and Glory" stars Edward Norton and Colin Farrell in a tale of corruption among a family of New York City cops.

The previous weekend's No. 1 flick, 20th Century Fox's action tale "Max Payne," fell to third place with $7.6 million, raising its 10-day total to $29.7 million.

Clint Eastwood's "Changeling," starring Angelina Jolie as a single mom tormented by police handling the investigation of her missing son, got off to a healthy start with $502,000 in limited release. It played in 15 theaters to averaged a strong $33,441 a cinema, compared with $11,593 in 3,623 theaters for "High School Musical 3." Distributor Universal expands "Changeling" into nationwide release Friday.

Also in limited release, Sony Pictures Classics' "Synecdoche, New York" had a solid opening of $172,926 in nine theaters, averaging $19,214. It stars Philip Seymour Hoffman as a writer staging a mammoth theater production that fills warehouses, and the directing debut of screenwriter Charlie Kaufman ("Being John Malkovich

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Media By Numbers LLC. Final figures will be released Monday.

1. "High School Musical 3," $42 million.
2. "Saw V," $30.5 million.
3. "Max Payne," $7.6 million.
4. "Beverly Hills Chihuahua," $6.9 million.
5. "Pride and Glory," $6.3 million.
6. "The Secret Life of Bees," $5.9 million.
7. "W.", $5.3 million.
8. "Eagle Eye," $5.1 million.
9. "Body of Lies," $4.1 million.
10. "Quarantine," $2.6 million.

HOLLYWOOD THEATERS
Don't just go to the movies, GO HOLLYWOOD!
Located near Price Costco in San Jose Saipan MP • 234-9000
POWER 99 FM SAIPAN, CNMI
$5.00 Bargain Matinees - All Shows Before 6PM
$5.00 All Day Admission For Seniors
$4.00 All Day Admission For Kids
$5.00 Student Admission with Valid I.D.
$5.00 Military with Valid I.D.
THRIFTY TUESDAYS $5 ADMISSION ALL DAY TUESDAYS FOR FILMS WITH A (T)
RESERVE TICKETS ONLINE AT www.gohollywood.com
dts DOLBY DIGITAL STADIUM SEATING WITH HIGH-BACK LOVESEATS
For Friday, October 24 through Tuesday, October 28 only!
THEATER CLOSED ON WEDNESDAYS AND THURSDAYS BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 17
★ ★ ★ NOW SHOWING ★ ★ ★

High School Musical 3
Friday 4:00 7:10 9:45
Saturday 1:15 4:00 7:10 9:45
Sunday 1:15 4:00 7:10
Mon and Tue 4:00 7:10
Zac Efron, Ashley Tisdale
Musical • Rated G
Synopsis
High school seniors Troy and Gabriella are facing the prospect of being separated from one another as they head off in different directions to college. Joined by the rest of the Wildcats, they stage an elaborate spring musical reflecting their experiences, hopes and fears about their future.

Pride and Glory
Friday 4:30 7:15 9:55
Saturday 1:10 4:30 7:15 9:55
Sunday 1:10 4:30 7:15
Mon and Tue 4:30 7:15
Edward Norton, Colin Farrell
Drama, Crime, Animated • Rated R
Synopsis
An exploration of the personal and professional lives of NYPD officers told through the interwoven lives of a three generation family of cops. Their moral codes are tested when Ray Farrell, one of three sons on the job, investigates a case that reveals an incendiary police corruption scandal involving his own brother.
★ ★ ★

Max Payne
Friday 4:25 7:30 10:00
Saturday 1:30 4:25 7:30 10:00
Sunday 1:30 4:25 7:30
Mon and Tue 4:25 7:30
Mark Wahlberg, Mila Kunis
Action, Adventure • Rated PG 13

Igor
Friday 4:10 7:25 9:40
Saturday 1:20 4:10 7:25 9:40
Sunday 1:20 4:10 7:25
Mon and Tue 4:10 7:25
Steve Busceni (v), Jay Leno (v)
Comedy, Animated • Rated PG

Body of Lies
Friday @ 7:20 @
Saturday 1:25 @ 7:20 @
Sunday 1:25 @ 7:20
Mon and Tue @ 7:20
Leonardo DiCaprio, Russel Crowe
Thriller, Adaptation • Rated R

Beverly Hills Chihuahua
Friday 4:05 7:00 9:30
Saturday 1:00 4:05 7:00 9:30
Sunday 1:00 4:05 7:00
Mon and Tue 4:05 7:00
Drew Barrymore (v), Andy Garcia (v)
Comedy, Adventure • Rated PG

Quarantine
Friday 4:15 @ 9:50
Saturday @ 4:15 @ 9:50
Sunday @ 4:15 @
Mon and Tue 4:15 @
Jennifer Carpenter, Jay Hernandez
Thriller, Horror • Rated PG 13

Eagle Eye
Friday 4:20 7:05 9:35
Saturday 1:05 4:20 7:05 9:35
Sunday 1:05 4:20 7:05
Mon and Tue 4:20 7:05
Shia LaBeouf, Michelle Monaghan
Drama • Rated PG 13

● NO PASSES ■ NO PASSES OR SUPER SAVERS
GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE • R-RATED FILMS REQUIRE PHOTO I.D.
www.gohollywood.com

Author Tony Hillerman dies, 83

PHOENIX (AP)—Tony Hillerman, author of the acclaimed Navajo Tribal Police mystery novels and creator of two of the unlikeliest of literary heroes—Navajo police officers Joe Leaphorn and Jim Chee—died Sunday of pulmonary failure. He was 83.

Hillerman's daughter, Anne Hillerman, said her father's health had been declining in the last couple years and that he was at Presbyterian Hospital in Albuquerque when he died at about 3 p.m.

Hillerman lived through two heart attacks and surgeries for prostate and bladder cancer. He kept tapping at his keyboard even as his eyes began to dim, as his hearing faded, as rheumatoid arthritis turned his hands into claws.

"I'm getting old," he declared in 2002, "but I still like to write."

Anne Hillerman said Sunday that her father was a born storyteller.

"He had such a wonderful, wonderful curiosity about the world," she said. "He could take little details and bring them to life, not just in his books, but in conversation, too."

Lt. Joe Leaphorn, introduced in "The Blessing Way" in 1970, was an experienced police officer who understood, but did not share, his people's traditional belief in a rich spirit world. Officer Jim Chee, introduced in "People of Darkness" in 1978, was a younger officer studying to become a "hathaali"—Navajo for "shaman."

Together, they struggled daily to bridge the cultural divide between the dominant Anglo society and the impoverished people who call themselves the Dineh.

Hillerman's commercial breakthrough was "Skinwalkers," published in 1987—the first time he put both characters and their divergent world views in the same book. It sold 430,000 hardcover copies, paving the way for "A Thief of Time," which made several best seller lists. In all, he wrote 18 books in the Navajo series, the most recent titled "The Shape Shifter."

AP

This is an undated file photo provided by HarperCollins of author Tony Hillerman. Hillerman, author of the acclaimed Navajo Tribal Police mystery novels, died Sunday, Oct. 26, 2008, of pulmonary failure.

Each is characterized by an unadorned writing style, intricate plotting, memorable characterization and vivid descriptions of Indian rituals and of the vast plateau of the Navajo reservation in the Four Corners region of the Southwest.

Cancer center honors TV anchor Robin Roberts

BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP)—Robin Roberts has been honored in New York for sharing her cancer treatment experience with millions of television viewers.

ABC's "Good Morning America" co-anchor accepted the 2008 Roswell Park Cancer Institute's Gilda Radner Courage Award on Saturday in Buffalo. The award is named for the late comedian and recognizes cancer patients whose public battles offer hope and raise awareness of the disease.

Roberts found out she had breast cancer in 2007.

AP

This June 28, 2006 file photo shows ABC "Good Morning America" anchor Robin Roberts outside ABC studios in New York's Times Square.

She credited film critic Joel Siegel with making her mindful of the disease, which helped her detect her cancer early. Her former colleague died of colon cancer in 2007.

She says: "Because of his passion, I did it. I found out I had cancer and was able to handle it."

TV preacher removed by father

AP

Robert A. Schuller, left, poses for a photo with his father, Robert H. Schuller, outside the Crystal Cathedral in this Feb. 9, 2006 file photo taken in Orange, Calif. Crystal Cathedral founder Rev.

GARDEN GROVE, Calif. (AP)—Crystal Cathedral founder Rev. Robert H. Schuller has removed his son as preacher on the church's weekly "Hour of Power" syndicated TV broadcast.

Schuller said in a statement read to some 450 congregants Saturday by church president Jim Coleman that he and his son, Robert A. Schuller, "have different ideas as to the direction and the vision for this ministry."

"For this lack of shared vision and the jeopardy in which this is placing this entire ministry, it has become necessary for Robert and me to part ways," Schuller said.

Robert A. Schuller will remain as senior pastor of the Crystal Cathedral, though it was unknown whether he will continue to preach, a church spokesman told the Los Angeles Times.

Film features T.I., Andrew Young

ATLANTA (AP)—Former United Nations ambassador Andrew Young, a global peacemaker, is now taking aim at gun violence in the U.S. through a new TV documentary that focuses on the rapper T.I. - a young man making amends for federal firearms offenses.

Young premiered the hour-long film, "Walking With Guns," on Sunday in Atlanta. It includes extensive footage of the Grammy-winning artist visiting a rehabilitation hospital in New York to meet patients paralyzed by gang violence. The film also shows T.I. and Young telling young people how to avoid violence, and follows a former gang member who is now a social activist.

The film, part a series called "Andrew Young Presents," is expected to begin airing Nov. 2 on TV stations around the country

AP

Andrew Young, left, and Clifford "TI" Harris, Jr. are on hand to present the project "Walking With Guns," a documentary in the Andrew Young Presents series, at Atlanta's Woodruff Art Center on Sunday, Oct. 26, 2008.

Voters value their privacy in heated election season

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I am writing in regard to the letter from "Registered Voter in North Carolina" (Sept. 23). I never tell anyone who I voted for, not even my husband (even though I usually tell him everything). It's not that I don't want him to know, but we respect each other's rights to voting privacy. We have lots of discussions about the candidates and issues, and both research them together. We have similar political views, and through our discussions we pretty much "know" who the other voted for.

I hate when people ask me who I am voting for, and I always decline to state. My husband went to war to protect our rights—including the right to privacy—and more people should respect them.

GLOVERSVILLE, N.Y., VOTER

DEAR VOTER: Thank you for writing. I was pleased to hear from a large number of readers also stressing the importance of exercising our freedom to vote. I am sure I don't have to remind everyone how important it is to vote in the Nov. 4 national election. This is a crucial time in our nation's history. Your vote will affect generations to come, so make your voices heard. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: I say you should be proud of your candidate of choice and say it! If someone refuses to say who they voted for, to me it seems like that person is ashamed to admit he or she supported this candidate instead of that one. If someone asks me who I voted for, I gladly let them know.

PROUD SUPPORTER IN COLUMBUS

DEAR ABBY: When asked, I say, "I voted for the person I want to win." If the questioner persists, I say, "I don't discuss politics. My doctor says my blood pressure is too high as it is."

MIDDLE OF THE ROAD IN S.C.

DEAR ABBY: I answer that question by telling people I voted for "the president," because whoever wins, I will support and pray that he/she makes the best decisions for me. I believe no matter who wins we must work together to overcome the problems we face.

JANE IN JACKSONS GAP, ALA.

DEAR ABBY: The quickest way to get people to drop the subject is to reply, "Isn't it great that we live in a country with private ballots, so we cannot be persecuted or nagged for who we vote for?" The nosy person generally changes the subject after that.

U.S. CITIZEN, OXNARD, CALIF.

DEAR ABBY: I grew up in a household in which my parents sat on opposite sides of the political fence. My mother had a very tactful way of shutting down conversations about personal politics by responding calmly, "We have a secret ballot in this country for a reason."

ERIN IN INDEPENDENCE, MO.

DEAR ABBY: I have a simple answer when pollsters or friends ask who I voted for (or will vote for). I say: "I don't even tell my husband that. That's why there are curtains on the voting booth." That usually shuts 'em up.

ANNA IN ALTON, N.H.

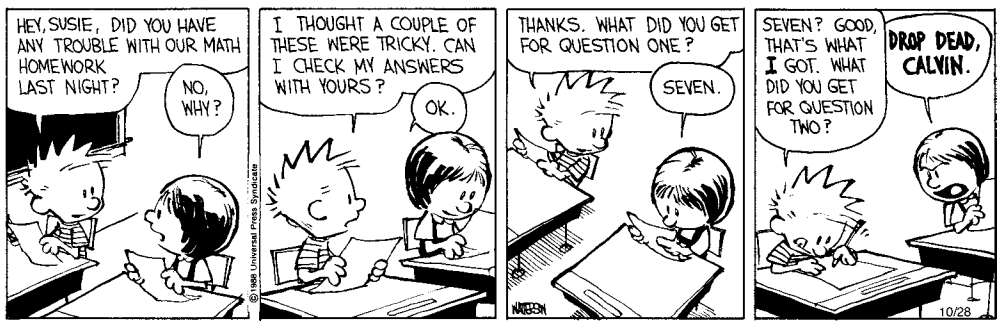
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

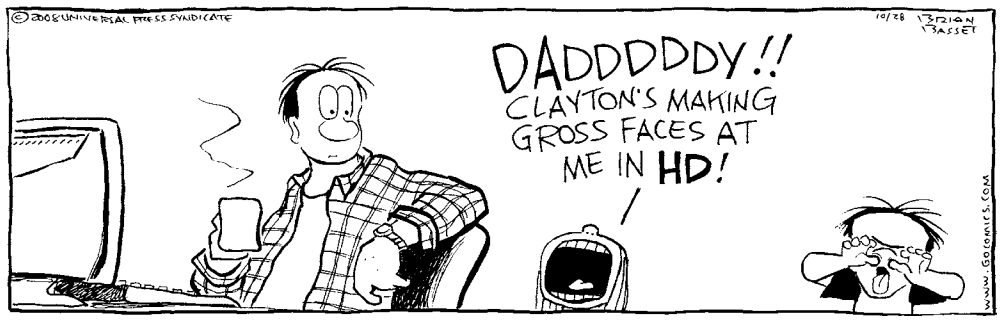

HEY, SUSIE, DID YOU HAVE ANY TROUBLE WITH OUR MATH HOMEWORK LAST NIGHT?
NO, WHY?
I THOUGHT A COUPLE OF THESE WERE TRICKY. CAN I CHECK MY ANSWERS WITH YOURS?
OK.
THANKS. WHAT DID YOU GET FOR QUESTION ONE?
SEVEN.
SEVEN? GOOD, THAT'S WHAT I GOT. WHAT DID YOU GET FOR QUESTION TWO?
DROP DEAD, CALVIN.
10/28

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

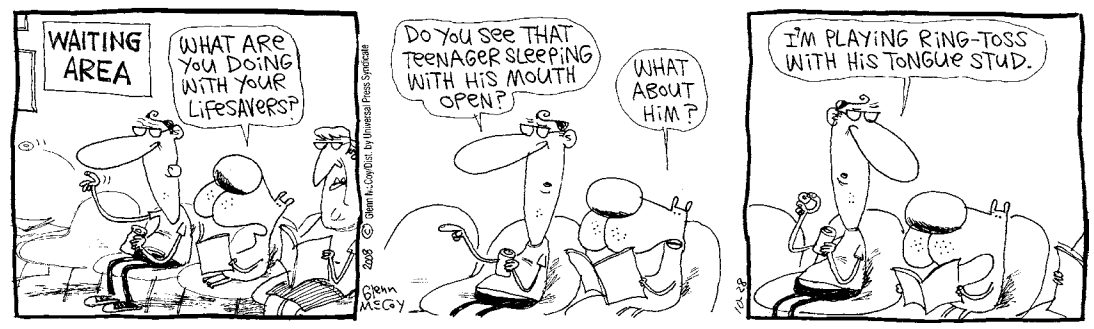
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


WAITING AREA
WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH YOUR LIFESAVERS?
DO YOU SEE THAT TEENAGER SLEEPING WITH HIS MOUTH OPEN?
WHAT ABOUT HIM?
I'M PLAYING RING-TOSS WITH HIS TONGUE STUD.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

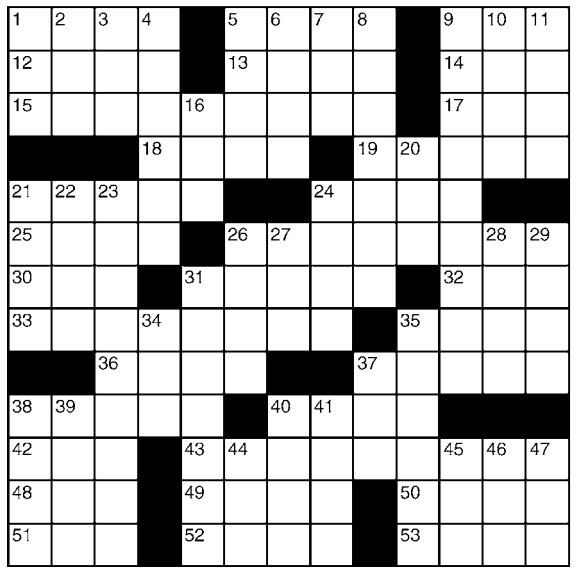
ACROSS
1 Tease
5 From the beginning
9 Affliction
12 Midwestern state
13 Tardy
14 Moreover
15 Ticket booth income
17 Carpet
18 Transaction
19 Poem
21 Distorted
24 Verdi opera
25 Full house, e.g.
26 Brown-bagger's option
30 Past
31 Satan's purchases
32 As well
33 Sports-page summary
35 Jalopy
36 Predicate word
37 Borscht ingredients
38 Tex-Mex recipe
40 "The Thin Man" dog
42 Actor Holbrook
43 Hinge-shelled reptile
48 Puncturing tool
49 A Great Lake
50 Once around the sun
51 Indivisible
52 Flavor enhancer
53 Exile isle

DOWN
1 Chore
2 Discoverer's cry
3 Half-dozen
4 — cobra
5 — Romeo
6 Hammer's target
7 List-ending abbr.
8 Cotton plant attackers
9 Product purchaser, often
10 Responsibility
11 Advantage
16 A mere handful
20 School's Web address suffix
21 Moby Dick's pursuer
22 Palm starch
23 Tennessee city
24 Wheelbase terminus
26 Nincompoop
27 "— Town"
28 Winter garment
29 Brewery ingredient
31 Journalists
34 Choice (Abbr.)
35 Call for attention
37 A/C meas.
38 Secretary of labor under G.W. Bush
39 Actress Goldie
40 Botanical angle
41 Undo a dele
44 — pro nobis
45 Aviv lead-in
46 Retriever type
47 Geological period

Solution time: 21 mins.

R	E	N	D	■	L	A	P	■	A	G	R	A
A	R	E	A	C	O	D	E	■	B	O	I	L
F	A	W	N	O	V	E	R	■	O	N	C	E
■	■	■	C	U	E	■	I	M	A	G	E	S
C	H	E	E	P	■	T	S	A	R	■	■	■
H	E	S	S	■	J	O	H	N	D	O	E	■
I	R	A	■	O	A	K	E	N	■	P	U	G
■	B	U	C	K	L	E	D	■	F	A	R	O
■	■	■	E	L	O	N	■	H	E	L	O	T
L	A	N	D	A	U	■	B	I	N	■	■	■
I	D	E	A	■	S	T	A	G	N	A	T	E
R	O	A	R	■	I	N	T	H	E	B	A	G
A	S	P	S	■	E	T	H	■	L	E	G	O

Yesterday's answer 10-28



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Joaquin Phoenix, 34; Julia Roberts, 41; Bill Gates, 53; Bruce Jenner, 59

Happy Birthday: You can turn nothing into something this year with hard work and discipline. Change is upon you—embrace it and make it work for you. You will prosper if you are adaptable and alter your life without a fuss or a costly price tag. Make fast decisions as each alteration in your life takes place. Your numbers are 5, 11, 18, 20, 28, 32, 41

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Don't give in when you know you are right. A commitment to someone or something will ensure that you have covered your back and can move forward with confidence. You don't have to go overboard to get ahead; stick to basics. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): So much will depend on how you treat others. Be compassionate but refrain from spoiling. Use common sense, good judgment and honesty. Open up talks about a new business venture. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Someone will not give you the lowdown on something you are working on. Don't get lured into doing something unnecessary. Do your own research and double-check everything. Nurture a love relationship. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): You are in the driver's seat and can manipulate whatever situation you face. Network, socialize and make contact and you won't be disappointed in the people you meet or what they can contribute to your life. ✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): You won't be too popular at home, especially if you refuse to give in to someone's demands. Get out and spend time with people who inspire and motivate you rather than bringing you down. Consider changing the conditions under which you have been living. ✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Nothing will happen if you don't take action. Solidify your position. Love may be questioned if you haven't been happy lately. If there is a problem, do not hesitate to rise up and take on whoever and whatever is standing in your way. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Take time to reflect on the past and to realize what you might have done differently. It's never too late to go back and fix something you did wrong or to address someone you never got over. It's hard to move on when you are hanging on to the past. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Do not wait for someone else to take over or push you aside. Stand tall and go for gold. Set the standard and be proud of who you are and what you've accomplished. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Less talk and more observation and re-evaluation will help you realize what everyone else wants and the strategy necessary. Once you see all the players positioned, you can make a wise and winning choice. Bide your time and strike purposefully. ✪✪✪

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Don't run and hide or give up or move on because you can't see a way out. Fight back with persuasion, a unique approach or a secret weapon. Take everyone by surprise with precise and forceful actions that cannot be denied. Watch your back. ✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Don't give in to someone because of sentimental reasons. If you don't stand your ground now, you will eventually regret your actions and have to deal with a much worse situation. Stay calm. ✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Set up deals and invest in your future. Check out any problems that you've had physically, emotionally or financially. You can get others to help you. Good fortune is heading your way. ✪✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are persistent and emotion-driven. You have finesse and talent and can capture an audience, enabling you to get what you want.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun,* ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations*

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		2				3		
9		4	5		8	2		7
			4	2	9			
	5	3				7	2	
		7				5		
	2	9				4	3	
			1	5	2			
2		5	7		6	9		1
		1				8		

Difficulty Level ★★ 10/28

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

1	3	9	7	2	4	6	5	8
4	5	2	3	6	8	7	9	1
7	8	6	9	5	1	4	3	2
5	6	1	2	8	7	3	4	9
2	4	3	6	9	5	8	1	7
9	7	8	4	1	3	5	2	6
6	9	5	8	3	2	1	7	4
3	2	4	1	7	6	9	8	5
8	1	7	5	4	9	2	6	3

Difficulty Level ★ 10/27

©2007 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

SECONDARY EDUCATION **Solution: 8 letters**

B	A	M	E	C	S	C	H	O	I	C	E	S	S	T
L	E	T	R	C	R	E	H	C	A	E	T	R	E	H
E	O	E	I	N	D	I	V	I	D	U	A	L	U	O
N	E	H	D	I	E	Q	U	A	L	I	T	Y	S	U
D	T	R	(S)	(E)	(N)	(D)	S	E	I	D	U	T	S	G
E	T	A	T	S	C	T	S	W	A	L	R	T	I	H
C	R	C	S	O	C	I	E	T	Y	G	N	E	A	T
N	I	E	I	L	E	A	D	G	E	E	R	F	N	D
E	G	L	D	I	C	S	O	U	R	C	F	E	L	E
I	H	O	E	N	S	P	L	A	J	A	M	E	E	S
C	T	G	A	A	E	A	P	A	I	E	T	S	S	A
S	S	I	L	N	V	G	N	R	V	P	R	I	S	I
L	A	C	I	H	P	O	S	O	L	I	H	P	O	B
L	A	I	R	E	T	A	M	I	X	I	N	G	N	N
O	B	J	E	C	T	I	V	I	T	Y	T	I	N	U

© 2008 Universal Press Syndicate www.wonderword.com 10/28

Affairs, Agree, Blend, Children, Choices, Class, Creed, Equality, Ethics, Fees, Gender, Ideal, Individual, Integration, Issues, Laws, Lead, Lesson, Logic, Material, Mixing, Movement, Note, Objectivity, Open, Parents, Peace, Philosophical, Race, Rights, Science, Send, Society, State, Studies, Teacher, Thought, Unbiased, Unity, Unprejudiced, Value

Yesterday's Answer: Computers

Treasury 4 is available to order by sending check or money order for $10.95 plus $3.25 postage and handling ($14.20 total, U.S. funds only) for the first volume, $1.50 p&h for each additional volume, to Universal Press Syndicate, Attn: Wonderword, 4520 Main St., Kansas City, Mo. 64111 or call toll-free, 1-800-255-6734, ext. 6688. Order online at upuzzles.com.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Apartment room for rent: Fully furnished 1 brm, T/B, 24-hr water $210/month, near Conwood | Tel. 287-1372, 235-6748

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, FF, AC, 24-hr pwr./water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. MIHA applicants accepted. Right behind NMC campus. Special rates for NMC faculty/ students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

ENTERTAINMENT

Soul Nights (Every Thursdays) Premiering DJ Bud'zzz.Ladies Beer (can)$2. Tequila Shots $2. From 9:30-12:30am. Drinks, Food, Music 4 the Soul!

WHATZIT Solution: Under arrest

NEED PROPERTIES
We are looking for all kinds of properties, vacant property, commercial building, house, or apartment for long term lease or for sale. Interested owners, you may visit Yuta Office beside Bank of Guam in San Antonio.

LOST PASSPORT

Name	:	LIN, JINFU
Date of Birth	:	May 3, 1973
Passport No.	:	144372693
Contact No.:	:	285-3855

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

© 2008 WHATZIT? is a trademark of Paul Sellers
Distributed by Universal Press Syndicate

Find today's solution in this section

MAKE-A-WISH®

Visit us at 865 S. Marine Dr.,
Orlean Pacific Plaza Ste. 104 Tamuning, GU 96913
Tel: (671) 649-WISH Fax: (671) 646-6293
Email: mawfguam@ite.net • www.wish.org
Office Hours: 8:30am-5:30pm, M-F daily

hope strength joy!

Saipan Tribune

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Opening Date: October 22, 2008
Closing Date: October 28, 2008

JVA No. 08-028	Meter Reader
Location	Admin., Saipan
JVA No. 08-029	Communications Operator
Location	Admin., Saipan

For information on the duties and minimum qualifications, please contact the Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan.

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer
P. O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950 Tel. (670) 235-7025 to 32 Fax (670) 235-5131

Advance
Auto-Aircon
REPAIR SHOP

Now OPEN to serve you!
Middle Road, Garapan, across Mobil Gas Station
233-0210 or 233-4747
www.TeamAdvanceGroup.com

WANTED: I Chief Accountant

Chief Accountant responsible for the oversight of all accounting functions, including inventory, invoicing and accounts receivable, fixed assets, accounts payable, payroll, and cost of production analysis. The successful applicant will also be responsible for the preparation of accurate monthly and annual financial reports. Position calls for extensive knowledge of computerized accounting software and functions. Ability to work as a team player in a fast paced atmosphere is required. Salary commensurate with experience.

Qualifications

- CPA designation with a minimum of 5 years manufacturing accounting experience.
- Familiarity with Peachtree Premium accounting software.
- Demonstrated understanding of cost accounting principles.
- Demonstrated understanding of integrated perpetual inventory accounting concepts.
- Demonstrated understanding of computerized payroll accounting systems.
- Ability to prepare monthly work papers to for the purpose of adjusting general ledger for accurate and timely financial statement preparation.
- Demonstrated understanding of MS Excel integrated modeling concepts for the preparation of trend and "what if" analyses.
- Staff management experience.

Deliverables

- Assume responsibility of accounting staff consisting of accounts receivable accountant, cost accountant, accounts payable, and inventory accountant, to ensure that work is performed in an accurate and timely manner.
- Assume responsibility for the biweekly processing of payroll.
- Maintain and amortize prepaid expenses.
- Supervise monthly physical inventory count and pricing, ensuring a proper cutoff.
- Prepare monthly work papers to show the correct month-end balances for assets and liabilities, the appropriate accruals and general journal entries.
- Assemble and organize the work papers for review by the Controller.
- Prepare monthly financial statements along with graphical representation of sales and analytical review commentary of significant changes in sales, cost of operations and expenses.

Please submit your resume and other related documents at the accounting office of:

Herman's Modem Bakery, Inc.
Tun Herman Pan Rd., Airport Rd.
Saipan MP 96950

No phone calls please.

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 7-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $25 per 3 liner ad for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of below packages that fits your budget.

ADS (7DAYS)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$25
• 5-Liner	$35
• 3-Liner with picture	$45
• 5-Liner with picture	$55

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday And Sunday Issues:
- *Saipan Tribune:* All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on either Sunday or Monday issues.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

Phillies rock Rays, take 3-1 Series lead

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Ryan Howard knows this place will go nuts with one more win.

"It will be absolute bedlam," he said. "It will be one of the craziest places on earth. It's kind of scary to imagine."

Then again, who would've guessed Phillies pitcher Joe Blanton would shut his eyes, take a huge swing and sock a ball into the seats.

Blanton became the first pitcher in 34 years to homer in the World Series, Howard drove in five runs with two homers and Philadelphia romped over the Tampa Bay Rays 10-2 on Sunday night to move within one win of its first title since 1980.

The team of 10,000 losses could give title-starved Philadelphia its first champion in any of the four big sports since the NBA's 76ers in 1983.

"A championship is the only way to fully reverse that thought of how the Phillies are portrayed," said Jimmy Rollins, who sparked the Phillies with three hits and three runs. "If we get that game, I believe we will be happy, the city will be happy, there will be a big parade,"

Jayson Werth also homered as the Phillies took a 3-1 lead in the best-of-seven Series and thrilled their frustrated, long-suffering fans.

"I didn't really buy into the whole thing about the city and the drought and all that kind of stuff," Howard said.

Cole Hamels will try to close out the Phillies' second Series title on Monday night against Scott Kazmir in a rematch of Game 1 starters. Hamels (4-0) is trying to become the first pitcher to win five postseason starts in one year.

Of the 42 teams to take 3-1 World Series leads, 36 have gone on to win the crown. After splitting the first two games in Florida, the Phillies improved to 6-0 at Citizens Bank Park this postseason. That includes a wacky, rain-delayed 5-4 win in Game 3 that ended at 1:47 a.m. Sunday.

"Cole looks for these moments. I call him Hollywood, because when the lights are on, that's when he's at his best," Rollins said. "And tomorrow night, the lights will definitely be on."

Rollins made a great escape from a rundown in the first inning—perhaps with the help of an umpire's blown call—energizing the Phillies and rattling the Rays.

A day after hitting his first homer of the Series, Howard connected twice. The major league leader in homers and RBIs hit a three-run drive off Andy Sonnanstine that made it 5-1 in the fourth and sent screams through a whooped-up crowd of 45,903. Howard added a long, two-run shot against Dan Wheeler in the eighth.

Blanton, with a Greg Luzinski body type that's a throwback to an era of pudgy pitchers, gave up four hits—including solo homers to Carl Crawford and pinch-hitter Eric Hinske—struck out seven and walked two in six-plus innings.

Just 2-for-33 (.061) with one RBI in his career to that point, Blanton homered in the fifth off Edwin Jackson. It was just the 15th home run by a pitcher in the Series, and the first since Oakland's Ken Holtzman in 1974. No NL pitcher had homered since the Cardinals' Bob Gibson in 1968.

"I just close my eyes and swing hard in case I make contact," said Blanton, who thought he hadn't homered since high school. "Better to be lucky than good, I guess."

Even when Jason Bartlett's grounder up the middle caromed off him in the fifth, the ball went straight to third, where Pedro Feliz threw to first for the out. The pinball wizard defense was fitting—The Who gave a concert across the street at the Wachovia Center on Sunday night.

Rays manager Joe Maddon came out in midgame to complain to plate umpire Tom Hallion about a spot on Blanton's cap.

"It was rather dark," Maddon said. "I was concerned about that early on."

Blanton pleaded not guilty.

"They rub the balls up with whatever they rub them up with, and you rub it up and get it on your hand," he said. "It's nothing sticky. Anybody can go touch it. It's just basically just dirt from the ball."

The middle of Tampa Bay's lineup kept fizzling as if it had been zapped by a Ray-gun, with No. 3 hitter Carlos Pena and cleanup man Evan Longoria combining to go an A-Rod-like 0-for-29 with 15 strikeouts in the Series.

"My plan is to just keep swinging," Longoria said.

Second baseman Akinori Iwamura made two errors that led to unearned runs, and a frustrated Longoria—again taunted by chants of "E-va! E-va!" in reference to the actress of the same last name—struck out three times and swiped a hand through the air when a call went against him at third base.

"We know what's going on, we're just not reacting very well yet, but there is time," Maddon said. "We have to not give them four outs in an inning. We have to have better at-bats."

Had the Phillies come up with more timely hits—a familiar story—Philadelphia could have blown open the game earlier. The Phillies were 4-for-14 with runners in scoring position and are 6-for-47 in the Series.

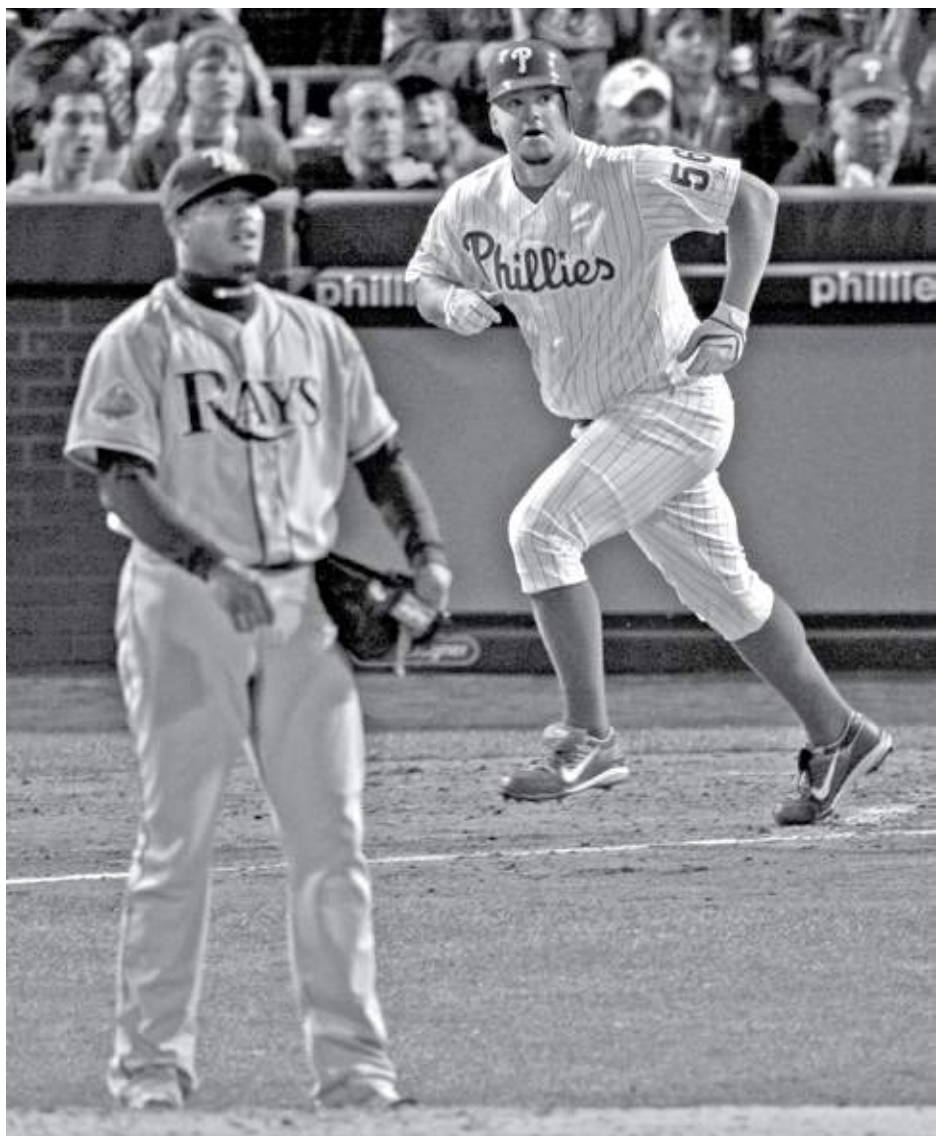
Sonnanstine struggled with his off-speed stuff and needed 89 pitches to get through four innings. He allowed five runs—three earned—six hits and three walks.

After Rollins escaped the rundown in the first—umpire Tim Welke signaled safe, although Longoria appeared to swipe him on the backside—Pat Burrell walked on five pitches, forcing home the first run. Before that, Sonnanstine had never walked a batter in 18 career situations with bases loaded. Chase Utley reached leading off the second when Iwamura allowed his leadoff grounder to bounce off him for an error and scored with two outs on a single by Feliz, just the third hit for the Phillies in 40 at-bats with runners in scoring position in the Series.

Crawford's homer cut it to 2-1 in the fourth, but Rollins reached on another error by Iwamura starting the bottom half, when his grounder rolled under the second baseman's glove in the hole near first base. Werth walked and, one out later, Howard drove a 72 mph pitch into the lower deck in left for a 5-1 lead. Howard had been 0-for-6 with five strikeouts in the much-focused on runners in scoring position stat.

Tampa Bay never recovered.

"It's win or go home. It's simple, and no one in here wants to go home and wonder what if," Cliff Floyd said.



AP

Philadelphia Phillies' Joe Blantonp, right, watches his solo home run off Tampa Bay Rays' Edwin Jackson, left, during the fifth inning of Game 4 of the baseball World Series in Philadelphia, Sunday, Oct. 26, 2008.

Beckman beats Sutherland in playoff at Frys.com

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. (AP)—Cameron Beckman had more than just a tournament to worry about this week. His future on the PGA Tour was in jeopardy.

That's no concern, now.

The 38-year-old Beckman tapped in a par putt on the second playoff hole Sunday to complete a big comeback and beat Kevin Sutherland in the Frys.com Open.

"It's just been a tough year," Beckman said. "I honestly was thinking about quitting the game. That's how bad I felt. I can't explain to you how good I feel right now. I don't know what it was and why I did it, but I just felt good all day."

Beckman, 176th on the money list and 447th in the world ranking entering the tournament, had skipped eight weeks this season because of back problems and was in danger of losing his tour card. He already had filled out his application for qualifying school, a process he knows all to well.

"I sat down with my wife and said, `What do you think?'" Beckman said. "I honestly was just trying to finish in the top 150 so I'd get to the (qualifying school) finals."

With the victory, worth $900,000, he's exempt for the next two years.

"He was playing with a lot more pressure than I was," Sutherland said.

Beckman was four shots behind Sutherland at the turn, then made birdies on five of the next seven holes. Sutherland missed putts of 13 and 9 feet that would have won it at the end of regulation and on the first playoff hole, also the 18th.

The second playoff hole was the 464-yard, par-4 17th, and it was a nightmare for Sutherland. His second shot sailed far to the right over a cart path and into the dirt. His third shot went over the green and down a hill.

Beckman, meanwhile, hit his second shot 6 1/2 feet from the pin. He just missed the putt, and the tap-in gave him his second PGA Tour victory. His first was the Southern Farm Bureau Classic seven years ago.

"I don't know, I just had a calmness about me this week, and it just happened," Beckman said. "...It's just like the last time I won. It just kind of happened. It's strange. I don't know what it is."

While many players were scrambling to finish high enough to earn full exempt status, Sutherland had no such pressure. He entered ranked 32nd on the earnings list and already had qualified for next year's Masters and British Open.

"I feel good about how I played. A second-place finish is nothing to sneeze at," Sutherland said, "but right now it's a little hard to see that through the disappointment."

It was the second playoff loss for Sutherland this year. He and Sergio Garcia were beaten by Vijay Singh at The Barclays on Aug. 24.

"This one seems a little harder than Barclays for some reason," Sutherland said. "I had a nice lead on the back side, and it was really nothing that I did wrong. I guess the bogey on 16 hurt. But Cameron played terrific."

Beckman made the turn at 13 under, then stormed back with birdies on the 10th, 11th, 14th, 15th and 16th holes.

He finally tied it at 18 under when Sutherland missed a 6 1/2-foot par putt on the par-3 16th, snapping his 53-hole streak without a bogey. Beckman finished with a final-round 63, and Sutherland had a 66.

Australian Mathew Goggin closed with a 63 to finish third at 17-under 263. Defending champion Mike Weir also had a 63 to wind up tied with J.J. Henry and second-round leader Arron Oberholser at 14 under.

Sunday was the warmest yet, with a high near 90 degrees, in what was a perpetually sunny four days of play on the 7,115-yard Raptor Course at Grayhawk Golf Club.

The Frys event, in its second year, was the fifth of seven stops on the tour's Fall Series.

AP

Cameron Beckman poses with the trophy after winning the final round of the Frys.com Open golf tournament Sunday, Oct. 26, 2008, in Scottsdale, Ariz.

Cool Brees leads Saints to win over Chargers in London

WEMBLEY, England (AP)—A trans-Atlantic trip was just what Drew Brees and the New Orleans Saints needed to get their season back on track.

Brees went 30-for-41 for 339 yards and three touchdown passes against his former team, leading the Saints to a 37-32 win over San Diego on Sunday at Wembley Stadium, putting New Orleans back at .500 and dropping the Chargers to 3-5.

The Saints (4-4) held off a late comeback by the Chargers, who came from 37-20 down early in the fourth quarter and were driving for the tying touchdown. But linebacker Jonathan Vilma picked off a pass by Philip Rivers with just over a minute to go. Brees took a safety in the final seconds to complete the scoring.

After last year's rain-soaked, error-filled 13-10 win by the New York Giants over the Miami Dolphins in London, the NFL was hoping for a high-scoring, offensive show in its return to the English capital. And that's just what the 83,226 fans at England's showcase venue got.

Brees, who came into the game leading the NFL with 2,224 yards passing, exploited the Chargers' vulnerable pass defense. But Philip Rivers, his former backup in San Diego, came up with big numbers too, completing 25 of 40 attempts for 343 yards and three touchdowns to bring his season total to 19 TDs. But while Brees went without an interception, Rivers' one pick on the final drive proved crucial.

AP

New Orleans Saints quarterback Drew Brees throws a pass to Devery Henderson to score a touchdown during the NFL football match between San Diego Chargers and New Orleans Saints at Wembley Stadium in London, Sunday Oct. 26, 2008.

Giants 21, Steelers 14

At Pittsburgh, The New York Giants did little with the exceptional field position the Steelers gave them. Finally, when it seemed Pittsburgh had too much depth and defense for the Super Bowl champs, the Steelers were tripped up by—of all things—a bad punt snap.

Eli Manning threw a 2-yard touchdown pass to Kevin Boss with 3:11 remaining for the Giants' only touchdown after they tied it several minutes before on a bizarre safety. Linebacker James Harrison's high snap on the punt gave New York two points, and the Giants held off Pittsburgh for a 21-14 victory in a matchup of division leaders.

The resilient Steelers (5-2) playing with backups all over the field, tried to make up for Ben Roethlisberger's four interceptions by turning two big-play scores into a lead they preserved with a goal-line stand midway through the fourth quarter.

But the Giants (6-1) tied it with 6:48 remaining on the safety.

Pro Bowl linebacker Harrison, playing center due to long snapper Greg Warren's knee injury, snapped the ball over punter Mitch Berger's head and out of the end zone. It wasn't certain why Harrison was snapping rather than starting center Justin Hartwig or right guard Darnell Stapleton, a center at Rutgers.

John Carney kicked four field goals for New York.

Browns 23, Jaguars 17

At Jacksonville, Florida, Jamal Lewis ran for 81 yards and a touchdown and Derek Anderson completed three huge passes to give the Browns their second victory in as many games without Winslow, the outspoken Pro Bowl tight end who missed the game after criticizing the team following his staph infection.

The Browns (3-4) played their best game of the season two weeks ago while Winslow was in the hospital and beat the Giants.

They didn't miss him against the Jaguars (3-4), either.

Anderson finished 14-of-27 for 264 yards and a touchdown. He had 168 yards passing in the first half, including a 5-yard TD toss to Donte' Stallworth; a 51-yard completion to Winslow's replacement, Steve Heiden, on fourth down; and a 43-yarder to Braylon Edwards that set up a short field goal.

Seahawks 34, 49ers 13

At San Francisco, fullback Leonard Weaver made two lengthy touchdown catches, Josh Wilson returned an interception 75 yards for a score and the Seahawks snapped their three-game losing streak.

Texans 35, Bengals 6

At Houston, Kevin Walter scored two touchdowns. He scored one touchdown in three seasons with Cincinnati, but set a career high by getting his fourth and fifth touchdowns of the year against his old club.

The win gave Houston (3-4) three consecutive victories in a single season for the first time in franchise history, and dropped Cincinnati to 0-8 for the fourth time.

Dolphins 25, Bills 16

At Miami, Ted Ginn had a breakout game with seven catches for a career-high 175 yards, and the Dolphins overcame a nine-point third-quarter deficit. With Ginn's first 100-yard game, he made by far his biggest impact since Miami's much-mocked decision to take him with the ninth pick of last year's draft.

Cowboys 13, Buccaneers 9

At Irving, Texas, Brad Johnson made up for several missed chances at touchdowns by throwing one to newcomer Roy Williams at the end of a drive sustained by four defensive penalties. The maligned Dallas defense made it hold up.

Panthers 27, Cardinals 23

Kurt Warner put up the better numbers, but Jake Delhomme engineered the comeback that kept the Panthers unbeaten at home and atop the NFC South. Delhomme threw for 248 yards and two touchdowns, including a go-ahead 65-yard strike to Steve Smith.

The Panthers (6-2, 5-0 at home) rallied from a 17-3 third-quarter deficit despite Warner's big day. He threw for 381 yards—by far the most given up by Carolina this season—and two touchdowns to Anquan Boldin. But the Cardinals (4-3) continued their road woes in part thanks to a botched fake field goal and a missed extra point.

Patriots 23, Rams 16

At Foxborough, The Patriots got by the Rams on a fingertip touchdown catch by Kevin Faulk. The Patriots' best pass-catching running back hung onto Matt Cassel's 15-yard pass on the left edge of the end zone with 3:19 remaining.

Eagles 27, Falcons 14

At Philadelphia, Brian Westbrook returned to his All-Pro form and rushed for 167 yards and two touchdowns as part of a dynamic all-around effort.

Redskins 25, Lions 17

At Detroit, Santana Moss dashed Detroit's hopes of finally winning a game.

Moss had a go-ahead touchdown reception in the third quarter and returned a punt for another score in the fourth.

Clinton Portis joined O.J. Simpson in the NFL record book with his fifth straight game with at least 120 yards rushing. He has 126 yards.

The Redskins allowed the Lions to go ahead with their first score in an opening quarter this season and trailed until Moss caught a 50-yard pass that capped a 95-yard drive with 4:42 left in the third quarter. He returned a punt 80 yards early in the fourth, giving Washington a 22-10 lead.

Jets 28, Chiefs 24

At East Rutherford, New Jersey, after struggling all game, Brett Favre connected with Laveranues Coles for a 15-yard touchdown pass with 1 minute left. The heavily favored Jets overcame three interceptions by Favre and an upset-minded Chiefs team using its third-string quarterback.

Ravens 29, Raiders 10

At Baltimore, On an afternoon that belonged to Rex Ryan and his tenacious Baltimore defense, the unquestionable highlight was a 43-yard pass from one Ravens quarterback to another.

Baltimore limited the Oakland Raiders to 35 yards while building a 19-point halftime lead, and the Ravens got a safety and four sacks. The win was particularly sweet for Ryan, whose twin brother Rob is defensive coordinator for the Raiders (2-5).

McAllister insists he played by rules for doping

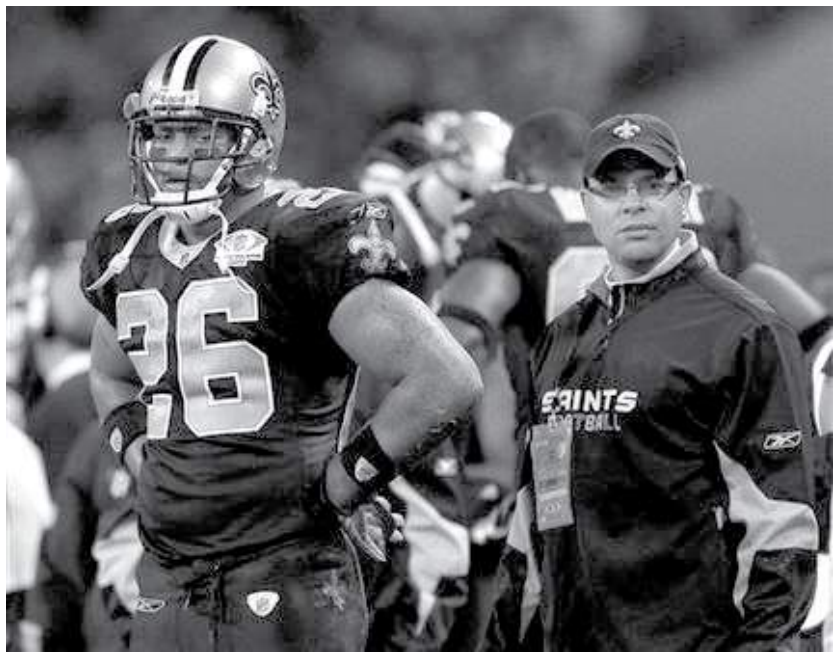
WEMBLEY, England (AP)—Deuce McAllister knew coming to London that he was being investigated for violating the NFL's steroid policy, but insisted Sunday that he had done "everything that we were asked to do" to follow the league's drug policy.

McAllister and New Orleans Saints teammate Will Smith reportedly are among several players who tested positive for a weight-loss diuretic that can be used as a masking agent for steroids.

Saints coach Sean Payton refused to comment on the reports after New Orleans beat the San Diego Chargers 37-32 at Wembley Stadium.

McAllister stopped short of saying he tested positive, but said he had known about the investigation since before it was first reported by Fox 31 television in Denver on Friday.

"We've been kind of going through this process for a while," said McAllister, who ran for 55 yards and a touchdown against the Chargers. "I guess you guys just found out about it at this point. But whatever happens, that's what's going to happen. We've hired counsel. He's going to do his job to kind of put the case together and however the NFL rules, that's the way it will be.



AP

New Orleans Saints Deuce McAllister stands on the touchline during the NFL football match between San Diego Chargers and New Orleans Saints at Wembley Stadium in London, Sunday Oct. 26, 2008.

Payton again referred all questions to the league.

"It's a league policy; it's not a club's position to comment on," Payton said. "I think the league will handle it, and they're the ones that will comment in regards to it. That's really it."

McAllister, who is the Saints' career leader in both yards and touchdowns rushing, said he hoped fans wouldn't think he tried to cheat.

"You hate to put yourself in a situation like this because you not only play by the rules, not only these eight years that I've been here in the league but four years of college and four years of high school," he said. "You always want to play by the rules, and that's what we've tried to do, myself as well as other individuals. ... We've done everything that we were asked to do, that the league has asked us to do. I mean, that's what we've done."

Smith said he couldn't talk about the case.

"I don't really want to comment on it," the defensive end told The Associated Press. "I'm just focused on football, and we'll see what happens. ... I'm not worried. Whatever happens, happens. It's out of my control."

McAllister said the media attention over the alleged violations had not affected the team's preparations.

"Whenever you're paid to do a job and you perform, that's what you have to do," he said. "As far as the appeal process or the suspension or whatever it may be, however you want to label it, that will all work itself out."

He also said there were more details that had not been revealed to media yet.

"I don't know how much you guys know," he said. "My counsel, he will put this case together, but there's more to the story than just a couple of lines."

Rebuenog tops RGA November qualifier

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

John Rebuenog defeated Jordan Kossam in the scorecard tie-break to rule the Refaluwasch Golf Association November Ace qualifying tournament held Sunday at the Marianas Country Club in Marpi.

Rebuenog and Kossam shot identical net scores of 69, but the former's net 33 on the front nine gave him the victory. If Rebuenog's score is unbeaten in RGA's next tournament, he gets to keep the November title.

The 24-handicapper Rebuenog drilled a 45 and 48 on the front and back nines for a gross 93, while the 15-handicapper Kossam had a 44 on the front and 40 on the back for a gross 84.

Thirteen other players joined last weekend's qualifier.

The list include Joe Demapan (net 74), Dwaine Stephens (79), Sonny Flores (75), Louie Tilipao (77), John Mettao (77), Rey Tiglao (74), Bill Kaipat (78), Jess Wabol (72), Tony Rogolifoi (76), Tom Tebuteb (7), Ulysis Kapileo (73), Adam Hardwicke (82), and Joe T. Wabol (80).

Jess Wabol completed the Top 3 with his net 72 and he also made the lowest gross score of the day, firing a 79 after hitting a 38 on the front and 41 on the back nine.

Two players won in the closest to the pin contests with Flores prevailing in hole No. 6, and Mettao in hole No. 12.

RGA tournament director Jess Wabol is reminding monthly Ace winners to meet the required six tournaments to qualify for the club championships.

Wabol is also encouraging RGA and non-RGA members to participate in the RGA Memorial Classic, which is set for Nov. 8 at the Marianas Country Club.

The event will be held in honor of RGA departed members Plas Tagabuel, Sid K. Peter, and Tony Taitano and will have an entrance fee of $100.

The following are sponsoring the RGA Memorial Classic: Kautz Glas, Reps. Heinz Hofschneider, Ed Salas, and Ray Palacios, and Speaker Arnold Palacios, Torres Brothers, Tropix Garden, Ben Jones and family, Kae Poong, Delta Management Corporation, Radio Com, PL's Water Company, Marianas Health Services, John L. Babauta, Sen. Luis Crisostimo, Yuna Golf Range, PTI, Saipan Stevedore, Saipan Shipping, I-Connect, Coco Restaurant, DFS, COP, Saipan Grand Hotel, Hyatt, Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, MARPAC, PTC, Fresh Marker, Coca-Cola, and Marianas Country Club.

For more information about RGA and the rest of its events in the 2008 calendar, contact Wabol at 233-3673 or RGA president Adam Hardwicke at 483-2926.

SHELL

From Page 28

their first appearance in the regional tournament, are playing for Team Sakudi in the ongoing semifinals of the Belau Amateur Softball Association League.

Camacho, who plays first base for Shell Marianas in the KOD, runs second in batting average (.600) in the BASA league.

Tenorio, meanwhile, is the catcher for Shell Marianas. She is No. 8 in batting with an average of .524 in the BASA league.

Shell Marianas team captain Sakisat likes the team's chances in the Tournament of Champions to be held in Palau on Nov. 15-16.

"We're the team to beat. It would be a different ballgame but we're still confident. We have good players. We have good defense. We will go all the way again," said Sakisat.

The players' trip to Palau will all be shouldered by Budweiser, which also sponsored similar qualifying tournaments in Palau and Guam.

"We've been playing as a team for many years. We're not really pressured," Sakisat said.

Shell Marianas ruled the first two qualifying tournaments of the KOD, while SaiPal won the third qualifying round after upsetting Shell Marianas in the winners' bracket of the playoffs and won again when they met in the championship last Oct. 13.

Shell Marianas this took the No. 1 spot in the Final Four, Natibu was No. 2, and SaiPal was No. 3.

Total Chaos was No. 4 as it won over SUFA, 14-11, in the wildcard qualifier on Friday night.

Shell Marianas easily established a 7-0 lead on the way to a 12-6 victory over Total Chaos in the winners' bracket and followed this up with a 13-5 decision against Natibu to earn a twice-to-beat advantage in the championship round.

Natibu scored a 6-0 victory over SaiPal, which needed to score a 10-5 win over Total Chaos to meet Natibu anew in the losers' bracket.

SaiPal got back at Natibu, 5-4, and earned the right to face Shell Marianas in the championship game.

JONES

From Page 28

to get nervous when playing in crucial games, and when you are used to playing in the finals, somehow, those tensions lessen," Jones said.

Miller made it to the finals of the U12 boys' singles, but results of his title match against Christian Penafiel were unavailable at press time. The championship game was played Sunday afternoon.

Miller advanced to the finals after beating Christian Han, 10-0, and Krisnan Penafiel, 6-1 6-1.

Christian Penafiel earned a title match with Miller after defeating former Saipan-based player Ryan Baron in the semis, 6-0, 6-0.

Several CNMI players joined Jones and Miller in the Guam tournament.

Lydia Tan played in the women's singles and made it into the semifinals after thwarting Migiwa Goodman, 6-3, 4-6, 6-2. But Tan failed to move into the finals after losing to Katie Lai, 0-6, 4-6.

Kennedy and Clayton Izuka participated in the U10 junior singles. Kennedy also joined the men's 2.0 singles and won his first match against Christian Han.

Chris Park was also victorious in his first game in the men's 2.0 singles, downing Kevin Lai, 6-2, 6-4.

ZAPANTA

From Page 28

diehards Ross and Gigi Zapanta let his intentions known right from the get-go by knocking down 224 pins in his first game.

He slowed down a bit in the second game, as he shot a pedestrian 155 before bouncing back with rolls of 184 and 202 in his last two games to finish with an average of 191.25.

The October Bing victory adds to the already crowded trophy case of the bowling prodigy, which includes championships in February, March, May, June, July, and August editions of the roll-off.

Marion McKenzie finished runner-up last Sunday with 587 pinfalls built around rolls of 150, 164, 152, and 121—good for a 146.75 average.

Leanne Yarobwemal complete the Top 3 after knocking down 573 pinfalls and averaging 143.25 following a four-game series of 135, 157, 151, and 130.

Zapanta, McKenzie, and Yarobwemal took home $20, $15, and $10, respectively for their performances with the October champion also winning a case of Waioka sardines courtesy of Micronesian Brokers, Inc.

Zack Cruz (565), J.D. Torres (501), Troy Verdaguer (480), Shelly Sablan (446), and Macrel McKenzie (344) also took part in the monthly roll-off organized by the Saipan Bowling Association and sponsored by MARPAC.

In related news, April winner Kitz Barja is currently leading the October Budweiser King of the Lanes with a score of 849 (212.25), while January Queen of the Lanes Emi Williams is pacing the women's division with her 731 (182.75).

Results of Day 2 of the two-day King and Queen of the Lanes last night were still not available as of press time.

Like the Bing Prince/Princess of the Lanes, the Budweiser King and Queen of the Lanes is sponsored by MARPAC.

GCA

From Page 28

is the result of our hard work the whole year. We have a good chance if they continue to play together as a team," Peterson said.

The Eagles and the Green Geckos have identical 1-1 record in the eliminations.

And the Eagles coach Mark Robles knows this well.

SIS-Green, Whispering Palms, and Calvary Christian Academy were the three teams that beat GCA this year after the Eagles won their first nine games.

The WPS Terns, who finished third in the elimination round, aim for a semifinal bid when it meets No. 6 Saipan Community at 3:30pm today.

The other game today will be between the No. 2 CCA Sharks and No. 7 Seventh Day Adventist, the defending champion.

Winners of both matches will meet in the semifinals tomorrow.

Meanwhile, there would be individual awards after the championship game.

For the sportsmanship award, there would be one vote for each school. A school must vote for another school, while for the most valuable player award, a player would be chosen by the coach as the school's MVP.

The overall league MVP would be selected by votes from all the coaches, which usually comes from the champion or runner-up team.

NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.

Angelo Jones is carried by a teammate after he keyed the Saipan International School Green Geckos' 25-19, 25-22 victory against Mount Carmel yesterday in the Coalition of Private Schools Sports Association volleyball playoffs at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NFL STANDINGS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	5	2	0	.714	153	132
Buffalo	5	2	0	.714	165	143
N.Y. Jets	4	3	0	.571	182	170
Miami	3	4	0	.429	145	146
South						
Tennessee	6	0	0	1.000	149	66
Indianapolis	3	3	0	.500	128	131
Jacksonville	3	4	0	.429	141	151
Houston	3	4	0	.429	175	185
North						
Pittsburgh	5	2	0	.714	155	110
Baltimore	4	3	0	.571	134	110
Cleveland	3	4	0	.429	115	123
Cincinnati	0	8	0	.000	104	217
West						
Denver	4	3	0	.571	173	195
San Diego	3	5	0	.375	224	199
Oakland	2	5	0	.286	107	177
Kansas City	1	6	0	.143	99	193

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
N.Y. Giants	6	1	0	.857	191	115
Washington	6	2	0	.750	165	145
Dallas	5	3	0	.625	202	184
Philadelphia	4	3	0	.571	194	137
South						
Carolina	6	2	0	.750	174	127
Tampa Bay	5	3	0	.625	170	120
Atlanta	4	3	0	.571	153	154
New Orleans	4	4	0	.500	216	195
North						
Chicago	4	3	0	.571	196	150
Green Bay	4	3	0	.571	194	159
Minnesota	3	4	0	.429	154	167
Detroit	0	7	0	.000	114	212
West						
Arizona	4	3	0	.571	200	171
Seattle	2	5	0	.286	144	184
St. Louis	2	5	0	.286	112	201
San Francisco	2	6	0	.250	171	230

Yesterday's Games

Miami 25, Buffalo 16
Washington 25, Detroit 17
Dallas 13, Tampa Bay 9
New Orleans 37, San Diego 32
Baltimore 29, Oakland 10
N.Y. Jets 28, Kansas City 24
New England 23, St. Louis 16
Carolina 27, Arizona 23
Philadelphia 27, Atlanta 14
Houston 35, Cincinnati 6
Cleveland 23, Jacksonville 17
N.Y. Giants 21, Pittsburgh 14
Seattle 34, San Francisco 13

FRYS.COM OPEN SCORES

SCOTTSDALE, Arizona (AP)–Scores after Sunday's final round at the $5 million Frys.com Open at the par 70, 7,125-yard Grayhawk Golf Club:

FINAL ROUND

x-Cameron Beckman, $900,000	69-66-64-63	262
Kevin Sutherland, $540,000	67-66-63-66	262
Mathew Goggin, $340,000	69-63-68-63	263
Mike Weir, $206,667	66-68-69-63	266
J.J. Henry, $206,667	65-69-68-64	266
Arron Oberholser, $206,667	65-64-71-66	266
Pat Perez, $150,625	71-66-67-63	267
Michael Sim, $150,625	72-63-68-64	267
Steve Allan, $150,625	67-63-68-69	267
Paul Goydos, $150,625	70-62-66-69	267
Aaron Baddeley, $102,500	67-70-66-65	268
Davis Love III, $102,500	69-67-67-65	268
Brenden Pappas, $102,500	69-69-64-66	268
Woody Austin, $102,500	69-65-65-69	268
Bob Tway, $102,500	69-67-64-68	268
George McNeill, $102,500	68-63-66-71	268
Sean O'Hair, $75,000	68-65-69-67	269
Billy Mayfair, $75,000	69-64-68-68	269
Steve Elkington, $75,000	66-67-68-68	269
Robert Garrigus, $48,944	66-66-71-67	270
Charley Hoffman, $48,944	70-65-69-66	270
Peter Lonard, $48,944	69-70-64-67	270
Rod Pampling, $48,944	70-68-65-67	270
Bill Haas, $48,944	66-68-68-68	270
Nick Watney, $48,944	69-67-66-68	270
Todd Hamilton, $48,944	69-69-64-68	270
Brad Elder, $48,944	68-63-70-69	270
John Mallinger, $48,944	63-69-66-72	270
Michael Letzig, $32,500	69-66-68-68	271
Robert Gamez, $32,500	67-69-69-66	271
Rocco Mediate, $32,500	68-69-66-68	271
Chris Stroud, $32,500	65-71-67-68	271
Tim Clark, $32,500	70-64-71-66	271
Patrick Sheehan, $23,667	72-64-68-68	272
Doug LaBelle II, $23,667	63-72-69-68	272
Jeff Quinney, $23,667	68-71-65-68	272
Omar Uresti, $23,667	67-70-66-69	272
Bubba Watson, $23,667	69-66-70-67	272
Mathias Gronberg, $23,667	65-68-72-67	272
John Merrick, $23,667	74-65-67-66	272
Y.E. Yang, $23,667	66-71-64-71	272
Martin Laird, $23,667	73-66-67-66	272
John Riegger, $16,500	70-68-66-69	273
Steve Lowery, $16,500	72-64-69-68	273
Tommy Gainey, $16,500	68-68-66-71	273
Rory Sabbatini, $16,500	72-67-68-66	273
Tim Herron, $16,500	72-65-71-65	273
Bob Estes, $13,350	71-68-66-69	274
Ryan Palmer, $13,350	73-66-69-66	274
Jonathan Byrd, $11 ,886	71-67-67-70	275
Charlie Wi, $11,886	68-70-67-70	275
Brett Quigley, $11,886	71-67-68-69	275
Scott Verplank, $11,886	69-70-67-69	275
Steve Flesch, $11,886	69-70-67-69	275
Richard Johnson, $11,886	64-71-72-68	275
Jim McGovern, $11,886	67-70-71-67	275
John Douma, $11,150	70-69-65-72	276
Olin Browne, $11,150	68-71-66-71	276
Kevin Streelman, $11,150	68-67-67-74	276
James Driscoll, $11,150	70-69-68-69	276
Tom Pernice, Jr., $10,750	67-70-68-72	277
Mark Hensby, $10,750	69-66-70-72	277
Todd Demsey, $10,750	65-69-72-71	277
Chad Collins, $10,750	67-68-66-76	277
Nick Flanagan, $10,450	71-67-69-71	278
Chris Riley, $10,450	67-67-73-71	278
Brian Davis, $10,300	72-63-71-73	279
Marco Dawson, $10,050	65-71-69-75	280
Frank Lickliter II, $10,050	69-67-70-74	280
Shane Bertsch, $10,050	69-69-70-72	280
Eric Axley, $10,050	73-66-69-72	280

x-won on second hole of playoff

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOCAL SCORES

PILCOWA STANDINGS

MIGS	3	0
Diamond Auto Care	2	1
Century Insurance	2	1
Aon Insurance	2	2
Olivos/Reliance Const.	0	3
C&R/NRG	1	1
San Miguel Light	0	4

FUTSAL STANDINGS

	W	L	Draw	Points
Aon Insurance	2	0	1	5
Matt Smith	2	0	1	5
Marianas Eye	2	1	0	4
Wild Bills	1	2	0	2
Marine Tech	1	2	0	2
Hardt Eye	0	3	0	0

Close victories for Century, Aon

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Century Insurance and Aon Insurance repulsed separate foes in similar fashion in Sunday night's games in the Inaugural 2008 PILCOWA-San Miguel Beer Basketball League at the CIC Centre Basketball Court in Garapan.

Both teams pulled off close wins with Century thwarting Olivos/Reliance Construction, 94-88, and Aon slipping past San Miguel Light, 94-91.

Century improved to a 2-1 record, gaining their second straight victory.

Dennis Vinas drilled seven of Century's 11 points in the last two minutes of the game, while frontliners Gil Gapor and Jawn Joyner took care of business on the defensive end and scored a basket each in the stretch to lift their team to the six-point win.

The game was tied at 83-all, going into the last two minutes of the game when Vinas connected on a triple and almost drew foul when he was slightly bumped by an Olivos defender.

Olivos' Peter Mendiola answered with his own triple to force a deadlock, 86-all, with 1:55 left on the clock. That was the last time Olivos tied the match, as it missed several shots after being intimidated by the long arms of Joyner and Vinas, and the heftier Larry Palero. Worse Olivos committed three turnovers in the last minute of the match.

The first one was at the Century's court when Mendiola made an inbound pass to Edmark Mendoza, who was not expecting the pass and was sprinting to their frontcourt.

Mendoza received the ball, but he was looking for his teammates running to the frontcourt and did not see Joyner from the blind side. When Mendoza made a turn, Joyner picked his pocket and stole the ball.

Joyner then passed the ball to Vinas, who made a layup putting Century in the lead, 88-86. Vinas added two more free throws after Olivos' successive field goal and free throw misses giving Century a 90-86 advantage, with less than a minute left in the game.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Century Insurance' Dennis Vinas, right, goes for a layup against Olivos' Peter Mendiola during their game in the Inaugural 2008 PILCOWA-San Miguel Beer Basketball League Sunday at the CIC Centre Basketball Court in Garapan.

Olivos had another turnover when Ivan De Vero rushed to their frontcourt, drove to the middle and lost the ball.

Century picked up the possession and Gapor drilled a fastbreak layup increasing their team's lead to six, 92-86, with 36 seconds left in the game.

Olivos refused to give up and was still in the tick of the fight when Glenn Mercurio nailed two free throws and stole the ball from Wowee Abuel. But Mercurio wasted a golden opportunity to move Olivos within two points when he lost the ball after making a turn toward the basket.

Century grabbed the loose ball and Abuel pitched in to Joyner, who made an uncontested layup sealing the win for Century in the last five seconds of the game.

Joyner top-scored for Century with 20 points and was 6-for-6 from the foul line in the fourth quarter. Olivos entered the penalty mark early in the fourth period, giving Century several chances to earn points from the 15-foot line and Joyner rose to the occasions.

Century went 10-for-17 from the free throw area against Olivos' 7-for-14 in the fourth period.

In the first game, Aon survived Ryan Sanciangco's season-high 41 points to snap its two-game losing streak.

Aon now has a 2-2 record, while San Miguel Light dropped to a 0-4 record.

Sanciangco, who missed San Miguel's last two games, returned big time, but failed to make the big shot that could've sent the game in overtime.

His triple in the closing seconds of the match was too strong helping Aon preserve the win.

First Game

Aon 94 – Mendoza 19, Factor 15, Lim 14, Apelo 12, De Dios 12, Catalla 4, Abuy 3, Capuyon, Bahillo 2, Eclevia 2, Santos 2.

San Miguel 91 – Sanciangco 41, Itaas 16, Lauron 10 Garon 10, Lansang 7, Abenoja 3, Ritual 2.

Scoring by quarters: 19-18, 42-38, 68-64, 94-91.

Second Game

Century 94 – Joyner 20, Vinas 17, Abuel 13, L. Palero 13, Gapor 7, Marasigan 6, Pagarao 6, de la Torre 6, Jinang 2, Opone 2.

Olivos/Reliance Const 88 – Mendoza 21, Mercurio 17, De Vero 16, Casabuena 11, Mendiola 10, Mateo 8, Montano 7.

Scoring by quarters: 13-27, 37-43, 66-63, 94-88.

Marine Tech barges into win column

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Members of Marianas Medical Center, left, and Marine Tech teams pose for a group photo before their game in the women's futsal league Saturday at the Northern Marianas College Gymnasium.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Marine Tech International snapped its two-game losing skid downing Hardt Eye Clinic, 3-1, at the continuation of action in the 2008 NMIFA Women's Futsal Fall League Saturday at the Northern Marianas College Gymnasium.

MTI goalie Noi Horey did a great job keeping Hardt Eye offensive players from scoring. Brianna Martin made several attempts to nail a goal, but Horey was there to foil her repeated bids.

Finally, Natalie Hill scored in the second half to prevent MTI from shutting out its foe. Marine Tech made all three goals in the first half and could have scored more if not for numerous saves from Hardt Eye's goalkeeper Mel Matson.

In two other games of the day, Aon Insurance and Matt Smith Law Office engaged in a draw, 2-2, while Marianas Medical Center defeated Wild Bills, 2-1.

Aon Insurance won its first two games and remained at the top of the team standings earning five points after three matches.

Matt Smith grabbed a share of the lead with AON as the former also prevailed in its first two games before forcing a deadlock with the Insurers.

Marianas Medical improved to a 2-1 record after topping Wild Bill's, which dropped to a 1-2 mark.

Marianas Medical is now in solo second place, while Wild Bill's tied Marine Tech for third.

Hardt Eye is at the bottom of the team standings having lost its first three games.

Games in the futsal league are played every Saturday, from 8:30am to 11:30am. The league will have a round-robin format in the regular season, while the format in the playoffs has yet to be decided.

This is the first time that Northern Mariana Islands Football Association is holding a futsal league.

Last year, NMIFA sent women's teams to Guam to join a tournament and next year, NMIFA will be fielding a men's squad in another futsal tournament.

Futsal is an indoor football game with teams having five players each on the court. It demands quick reflexes, fast thinking, and accurate ball control. Games are played in a basketball-style court, with no walls and a low-bouncing ball, requiring players to use their skill rather than the ball's bounce to propel it.

Ghasias Brothers stun Evenflow in opener

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Returning Ghasias Brothers sent a strong message to the rest of the field in the 2008-2009 World Organized Rocball Community League after pulling off a 76-71 upset over defending champion Evenflow Saturday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

Ghasias Brothers missed the league the past several years, but prior to their absence, they won several championships.

In their first game this season, Ghasias Brothers dominated Evenflow, leading by 12, 64-52, at the end of the four regular sets.

Ghasias Brothers swept the first three sets, 17-10, 17-11, 18-13, but failed to notch a juice-out win when Evenflow recovered in the fourth set, 18-12.

In Rocball, a leading team wins a match only if it also prevails in the last set. If not, the game will go in overtime with the leading team needing only one set to take the match. The trailing squad must win two sets in overtime to steal the game.

Evenflow extended the game into the second set with its 1-2 victory in the first-set okon. But Ghasias Brothers recovered their bearings, eking out a 10-8 win to stun Evenflow in the league's opening game.

Freddie Pelisamen led Ghasias brothers with 26 points. He had four aces, four kees, two goals, and four jams. Pelisamen's four jams is a new record in the league. A jam is scored when a receiving team player spikes down a served ball at the net. It is one of the most difficult plays to make in Rocball.

Also winning their opening match were Naturals, Soul Rebels, Fanians, and No-Mercy.

Naturals juiced-out Uraiwak, 59-32.

Willie Aguilar and Fiden Denri led Naturals with nine points apiece. They combined for four aces, two kees, and a goal.

In the third game, Soul Rebels outclassed Section A in four sets, 69-21. Soul Rebels won all four sets with Jordan Igisomar and Ben Lisua leading the team's attack. The duo tallied 10 aces, three kees, and two goals for 32 points.

Fanians (formerly Try-Outs) recorded the third juiced-out win of the night, downing FSM Rebels, 58-23.

Jazy Roskow was the game's heavy hitter, nailing 20 points on eight aces and two kees. Rex Jose and Youme and Larry Sharry made one goal apiece for Fanians.

In the last game of the day, Okies pulled of a 55-52 win over No-Mercy.

Myron Laniyo paced No-Mercy with 26 points in the loss, making four aces, two xunks, and seven kees, which tied Pelisamen for the most points scored on opening day.

Close victories for Century, Aon

Century Insurance and Aon Insurance repulsed separate foes in similar fashion in Sunday night's games in the Inaugural 2008 PILCOWA-San Miguel Beer Basketball League at the CIC Centre Basketball Court in Garapan.

27

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Phillies rock Rays, take 3-1 Series lead

Ryan Howard knows this place will go nuts with one more win. "It will be absolute bedlam," he said. "It will be one of the craziest places on earth. It's kind of scary to imagine."

24

Shell Marianas earns ticket to Palau

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
n_rodriguez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

They're at it again.

The best slow-pitch softball club in Micronesia renewed their dominance at home with a victory against the only team that defeated them this year in the 2008 Budweiser King of the Diamonds Tournament.

Shell Marianas, composed of the same players who won the crown for the past three years while wearing the colors of No Ka Oi, earned another crack at the title by walloping SaiPal, 10-2, last Sunday in the championship of the CNMI qualifier held at the Capital Hill Ballfield.

Manny Sablan went 3-for-3, while Julian Camacho and Mel Sakisat went 2-for-2 to lead Shell Marianas in the victory.

Sablan, Toi Celis, Bert Camacho, and Julian Camacho also scored runs in the top of the second inning to give Shell Marianas an early 4-0 lead.

SaiPal's Hector Efraim charged back with a run on a base hit by Clifton Siliil in the bottom of the second.

Jerry Ayuyu, Sakisat, Manny Sablan, and Julian Camacho then reached home plate in the third inning, while Sakisat and Manny Sablan added two more in the fifth to stretch Shell Marianas lead to 10-1.

Tyrone Omar scored SaiPal's second run in the sixth but his team could not muster enough firepower when they resumed their at-bats in the bottom of the seventh and final inning.

It marked the fourth time overall that Shell Marianas/No Ka Oi will represent the CNMI in the regional softball tournament.

The venue will shift back to Palau, which hosted the initial staging in 2005. Saipan hosted it in 2006 and Guam in 2007.

Except for two additional women, Bert Camacho and Erica Tenorio, the rest of the team's roster had been part of that three-time defending champions.

They are Ayuyu, Sakisat, Manny Sablan, Roy Celis, Toi Celis, Julian Camacho, J.R. Suel, June Saralu, Mario Sablan, J.J. Laniyo, Ben Tagabuel, Ben Mesa, and Dave Camacho.

The two ladies, who will make

See SHELL on Page 26

NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
Members of Shell Marianas pose with family members while proudly showing off their trophies after winning the lone ticket for the trip to Palau in the 2008 Budweiser King of the Diamonds.

Jones returns from eventful Guam trip

Jones

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

CNMI junior netter Rafael Jones competed in a two-weekend tournament at the Hilton Tennis Courts in Guam and went home with first place and runner-up finishes.

Jones first played in the U16 junior singles division in the 3rd Annual Quality Cup Tennis Tournament organized by the Tennis Academy of Guam. The juniors singles and doubles competitions were played last Oct. 18 and 19.

The 14-year-old Jones ruled the juniors event after downing Li Anran in straight sets, 6-1, 6-1.

Jones advanced to the title match after topping Swami in the semifinals, 6-0, 6-3.

Jones returned to Guam last weekend and joined the men's 3.0 singles, which drew 12 players from Saipan and Guam.

The Saipan International School student had a bye in the first round and faced CNMI teammate Christian Miller in the quarterfinals. Miller moved into the quarterfinals after beating Chuck Herbale in his first match, 6-1, 6-2.

Bu Jones foiled Miller's bid to gain a semis entry as the former nailed a 6-4, 7-6 triumph in the quarterfinals.

In the semis, Jones was pitted against Masakazo Takahashi and the CNMI bet continued his winning ways, escaping with a three-set victory, 3-6, 6-1, 6-1.

Jack Chan won in the upper bracket's semifinal round beating Stanley Rice, 6-4, 6-3, to set up a title duel with Jones.

Jones eventually lost the finals, 6-1, 6-4, which was played only 30 minutes after the CNMI netter teamed up with Miller in the men's 4.0 doubles semifinals.

Miller and Jones dropped their semis match in the doubles in three sets, 1-6, 6-2, 0-6.

"It was hard playing back-to-back games in a pretty hot weather with only 30 minutes of rest," said Jones, who used the Guam matches to warm up for next month's NMITA Fall Classic and for his trip to New Zealand in December.

"Playing in the finals gives me confidence to overcome nervousness. It is really important not

See JONES on Page 26

Zapanta rolls to seventh Bing victory

MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Raphael Zapanta reasserted his mastery in the Bing Prince of the Lanes Tenpin Bowling Tournament, winning his seventh monthly championship last Sunday at the Capital Bowling Center.

After yielding the title to J.D. Torres last month, the 13-year-old Chacha Junior High School student returned with the vengeance at the Garapan bowling venue with an eye-popping four-game series total of 765 pinfalls.

The youngest son of bowling

See ZAPANTA on Page 26

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
October Bing Prince of the Lanes Raphael Zapanta is flanked by runners-up Marion McKenzie and Leanne Yarobwebal during the awards ceremony of the monthly youth bowling tournament last Sunday at the Capital Bowling Center.

GCA, SIS-Green arrange semifinal encounter

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
n_rodriguez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Grace Christian Academy and Saipan International School-Green arranged a semifinal clash after winning against their respective opponents at the start of the playoffs in the Middle School Division of the 2008 Coalition of Private Schools Sports Association volleyball tournament yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The GCA Eagles, who finished with a 11-3 record after two elimination round games for the No. 1 spot in the playoffs, won over No. 8 SIS-Blue Geckos in straight sets, 25-19, 25-18.

On the other hand, the No. 4 SIS-Green Geckos posted a similar hard-earned victory against No. 5 Mount Carmel, 25-19, 25-22, as the games got tougher with the volleyball season nearing its climax. Both the Green Geckos and the Knights finished with 7-7 win-loss records in the eliminations.

The JV Eagles and the Green Geckos will meet at 3:30pm tomorrow with the winner advancing to the championship game.

Asked about their chances, Green Geckos coach Kim Peterson said they must keep their momentum going to reach the finals and possibly win the title.

"They came out playing as a team today. This

See GCA on Page 26